Blood
Usagui
XI
PROTOPOROS
41
追稔雄

11

迫稔雄

saka toshio presents

25 AIR-BIOS

25 AIR-BIOS

15

WIN!

A 2 3 4 5

STRAIGHT FLUSH

1ST ROUND

LOSE! 36

8 8 8 8 4

FOUR-OF-A-KIND

BEFORE THE 2ND ROUND

1ST ROUND ANTE | LALO'S BET | BAKU'S BET | 1ST ROUND ANTE

USED AIR-BIOS (CAN'T BE BET)

32 AIR-BIOS

15 AIR-BIOS

AIR-BIOS WON IN THE 1ST ROUND

8

LOSE!

2 2 2 A A

FULL HOUSE

2ND ROUND

WIN! 39

9 9 9 9 3

FOUR-OF-A-KIND

BEFORE THE 3RD ROUND

16 AIR-BIOS

29 AIR-BIOS

AIR-BIOS WON IN THE 2ND ROUND

CHAPTER 440

THE KNOWLEDGE CARVED IN ABOMINATION

IT'S WONDERFUL OF YOU TO HAVE RESOLVED IT BEFORE MY ESTIMATIONS, BUT...

THE LONGER YOU WAIT, THE MORE PAINFUL THIS HELL WILL BECOME!! YOU'LL END UP REGRETTING THE FACT THAT YOU UNDERSTAND IT!!

UNDER-STAND-ING THE LAW...

WILL ONLY LEAD YOU TO HELL!

THE REASON !?

DO YOU NOW UNDER-STAND

TRY TO CREATE 4 DIFFERENT POKER HANDS WITH ONE DECK OF CARDS.

A 2 3 4 5

8 8 8 8 4

9 9 9 9 3

A A 2 2 2

HUH!?

BOTH OF YOU,

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU SUDDENLY!?

YOUR BREATHING HAS BECOME SO DISRUPTED AND INTENSE RIGHT NOW!!

CALM DOWN, MADARA-ME!!

THERE ARE 32 CARDS REMAINING.

WHAT THOSE 32 CARDS ALL ARE?

ARE YOU ABLE TO TELL ME

ALL THE REFEREES

UNDER-STOOD IT IN AN INSTANT.

AT THE SAME TIME,

WAIT...

BUT, WE NEED CARDS!! THERE'S NO WAY ANYONE COULD DO IT WITHOUT CARDS!!

COMING FROM ONE DECK.

39

9 9 9 9 3

FOUR-OF-A-KIND

VS

FULL HOUSE

2 2 2 A A

8

THE BATTLE BETWEEN THE NUMBERS WAS ACTUALLY,

A FIGHT BETWEEN A POKER HAND VERSUS A POKER HAND, CREATED FROM THE SUM OF 5 CARDS.

IT SEEMS IT WAS AS WE BOTH THOUGHT...

I SEE, REFEREE MIDARA.

JUDGING FROM THE SITUATION UP TILL NOW, IT MAKES SENSE.

BOHO HO... I SEE...

AND NO WONDER SHION WOULD SAY IT'S HELL!!

IF THIS IS INDEED TRUE,

HE WOULD INDEED BREATHE THAT MUCH!!

DISAPPEARED FROM THE 52 CARD DECK AFTER THE 2ND ROUND!!

20 CARDS HAVE ALREADY

NOW USOGUI HAS TO THINK...

CREATED FROM THE REMAINING CARDS IN THE DECK!

ABOUT ALL THE POKER HANDS THAT COULD BE

YOU'D PROBABLY NEED TO USE UP AN INCREDIBLE AMOUNT OF AIR-BIOS.

IN ORDER TO MAKE THE LAW YOUR ALLY,

UNLIKE THE EARLY ROUNDS,

NOW THE DIFFICULTY FOR "BOTH SIDES" WILL INCREASE DRAMATICALLY.

IF HE HADN'T UNDER-STOOD THE LAW.

HE WOULDN'T HAVE TO THINK SO MUCH

WHO KNOW EXACTLY WHICH CARDS WERE USED IN THE FIRST AND SECOND ROUND... THEY CAN ONLY ASSUME IT.

ALSO, THEY CAN'T SEE THE SUIT OF THE CARDS.

MORE-OVER,

THEY'RE DIFFERENT FROM US,

PLEASE SELECT YOUR CARD.

HE ALSO PROBABLY USED A LOT OF AIR AFTER DROWNING ONE TIME!

HE... HAS BREATHED SO MUCH!

HE WILL SOON RUN OUT OF AIR... IS THIS REALLY THE RIGHT THING TO DO, AFTER GOING AS FAR AS BETTING THE AIR-BIOS YOU NEEDED TO BREATHE!?

EVEN THOUGH HE'S CONSUMING SO MUCH AIR RIGHT NOW, HE IS THE ONLY ONE THERE WHO HAS GRASPED THE LAW!

HE CAN WIN AFTER WINNING ONE MORE ROUND!!

PLEASE SELECT THE CARD WITH THE STRONGEST POKER HAND, BAKU-SAN!!

第125話

スート

STRAIGHT FLUSH

A RESILIENT MINDSET...

HE'S ABLE TO MAINTAIN HIS COMPOSURE SO WELL EVEN THOUGH HE'S BEEN PUT IN A BAD SPOT AFTER THAT COMEBACK...

OR MAYBE HE JUST SEES IT AS SOMEONE ELSE'S BUSINESS...

SO QUIET...

UNLIKE USOGUI, HE ISN'T THINKING AT ALL...

HE MIGHT HAVE ALREADY NOTICED THAT THE NUMBERS ARE THE SUM OF POKER HANDS ALREADY.

SHOULD BE HIGHER IN LALO'S CARDS.

THE HINTS HIDDEN IN THE NUMBERS OF THE CARDS THEY'RE HOLDING...

STRAIGHT ROYAL FLUSH

HE'S...

HE'S DOING SOMETHING ON THE DESK!!

MADARAME, WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

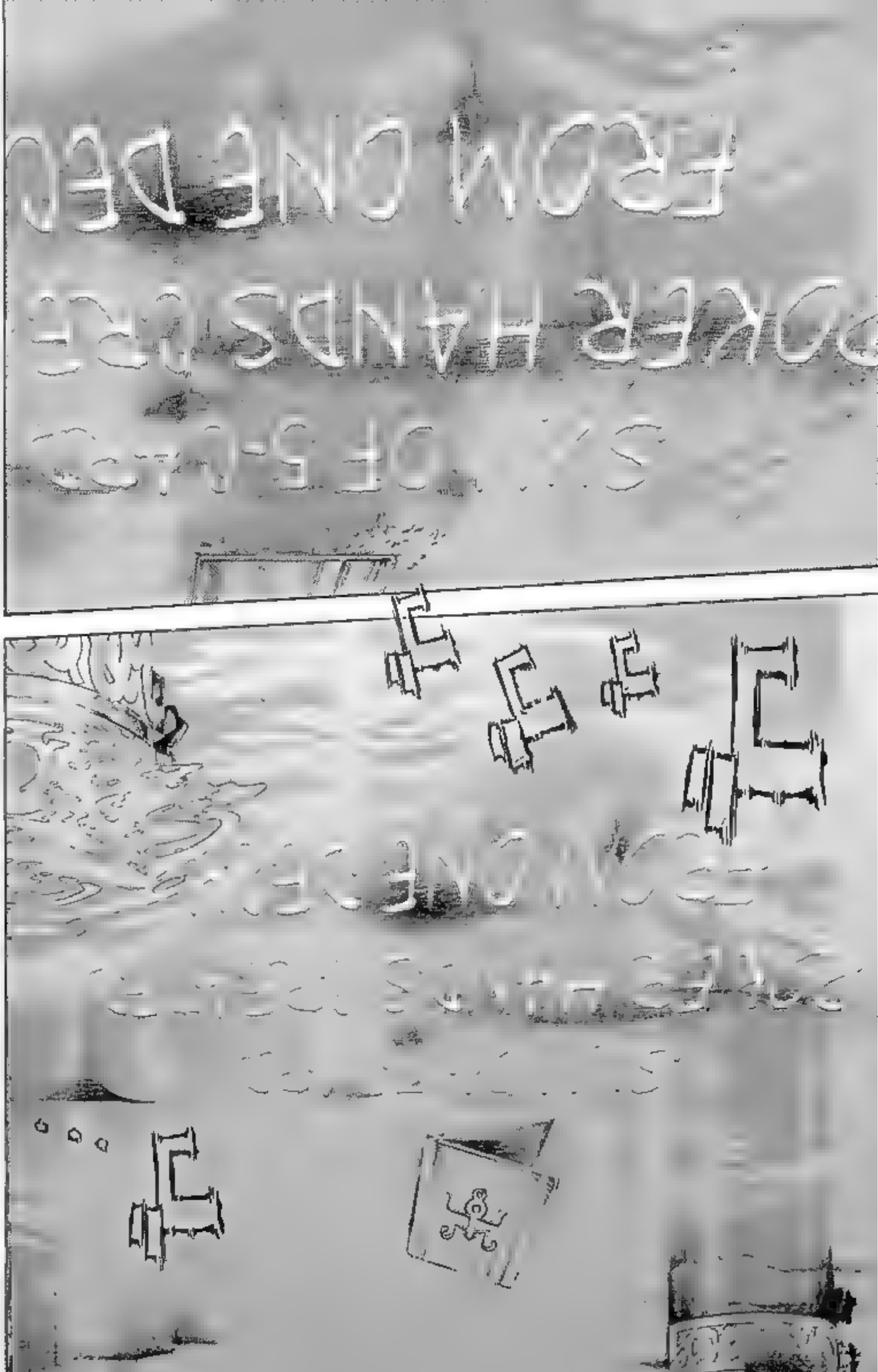
HE...

AH...

HUH ?

DON'T...

DON'T TELL ME...



HE CARVED IT...

TELL ME... THE LAW?

DID HE JUST

I SEE...

I... I SEE...

DEEPER THAN HE COULD HAVE EVER IMAGINED

THE KNOW-LEDGE THAT MAY DESTROY HIM...

HE'S NOW BEING DRAGGED INTO AN ABYSS

BY THE GOD OF DEATH.

DON'T TELL ME...

DON'T TELL ME...

HE TOLD LALO...

THE LAW HE RESOLVED!?

LALO ENDED UP LEARNING IT TOO.

RIGHT WHEN USOGUI DID SOMETHING,

LALO'S BREATHING SUDDENLY INCREASED CRAZILY

SHION,

USOGUI HAS TOLD LALO THE LAW

BY CARVING IT ON THE TABLE, HASN'T HE!?

CHAPTER 441:

THE PROVOKING GAMBLER

NO...
NO WAY...

WHY!?

HE PROBABLY HATED BEING THE ONLY ONE TO CONSUME SO MUCH AIR, AND TOOK LALO WITH HIM!!

IT WOULDN'T BE SURPRISING IF HE DID THAT MUCH... IT'S SOMETHING USOGUI WOULD COME UP WITH AFTER ALL.

SUCH A METHOD!

!!

THEY'RE GOING TO CHANGE THEIR AIR-BIOS!!

HERE IT IS!

AH!

LAI O STARTED BREATHING

HIS 3RD AIR-BIOS

USOGUI STARTED BREATHING

HIS 4TH AIR-BIOS

MY THOUGHTS CAN'T KEEP UP WITH THESE TWO PEOPLE WITH LIMITED AIR!

GOING ON!?

WHAT IS...

AS SOON AS I THOUGHT I HAD UNDERSTOOD THE LAW, I SUDDENLY COULDN'T KEEP UP WITH IT ANYMORE...

"AIR POKER", 3RD ROUND

BREATHING HIS 3RD AIR-BIOS

ANTE. 3 AIR-BIOS

12 AIR-BIOS LEFT

BREATHING HIS 4TH AIR-BIOS

ANTE. 3 AIR-BIOS

25 AIR-BIOS LEFT

CHAPTER 41

THE PROVOKING GAMBLER

LALO-SAMA,

HE'D INSTANTLY EXPOSE THE LAW WITHOUT REGRETS JUST FOR THAT...?

LALO, WHO ENDED UP KNOWING THE LAW UNINTENTIONALLY,

ISN'T THINKING AT ALL ABOUT THE MIND GAME.

RIGHT NOW, HE'S SIMPLY FOCUSING WITH ALL HIS MIGHT TO FIGURE OUT...

PLEASE SELECT A CARD.

IS THE STRONGEST 17

WHICH CARD OUT OF THOSE 3

ARE LIMITED.

WITHIN THOSE, THE MOST IMPORTANT THING RIGHT NOW IS FIGURING OUT...

THEY'VE ONLY JUST UNDERSTOOD THE TRUTH BEHIND THE LAW, SO THE ACTIONS THEY CAN DO RIGHT NOW

CAN CREATE THE STRONGEST POKER HAND WITHIN THE REMAINING 32 CARDS!!

47
63
41

WHICH ONE OF THEIR CARDS

AS I THOUGHT, IT'S THIS ONE.

10 + J + Q + K + A
(11) (12) (13) (1)

=

47 IS
ABLE TO CREATE

THIS

47

STRAIGHT
FLUSH.

A
ROYAL

POKER HAND RANKINGS

ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH

A, K, Q, J, 10,
ALL THE SAME SUIT

STRAIGHT FLUSH

A HAND THAT CONTAINS 5 CARDS OF SEQUENTIAL RANK, ALL OF THE SAME SUIT

FOUR OF A KIND

A HAND THAT CONTAINS 4 CARDS OF THE SAME RANK AND 1 CARD OF ANOTHER RANK

FULL HOUSE

A HAND THAT CONTAINS 3 CARDS OF THE SAME RANK AND 2 CARDS OF ANOTHER RANK

FLUSH

A HAND THAT CONTAINS 5 CARDS ALL OF THE SAME SUIT, NOT ALL OF SEQUENTIAL RANK

STRAIGHT

A HAND THAT CONTAINS 5 CARDS OF SEQUENTIAL RANK, NOT ALL OF THE SAME SUIT

THREE OF A KIND

A HAND THAT CONTAINS 3 CARDS OF THE SAME RANK AND 2 CARDS OF 2 DIFFERENT RANKS

TWO PAIR

A HAND THAT CONTAINS 2 CARDS OF THE SAME RANK, 2 CARDS OF ANOTHER RANK, AND 1 CARD OF A 3RD RANK

ONE PAIR

A HAND THAT CONTAINS 2 CARDS OF THE SAME RANK AND 3 CARDS OF 3 DIFFERENT RANKS

HIGH CARD

ANYTHING THAT DOES NOT FIT WITHIN THE UPPER DEFINITIONS

IT IS THE STRONGEST HAND IN POKER.

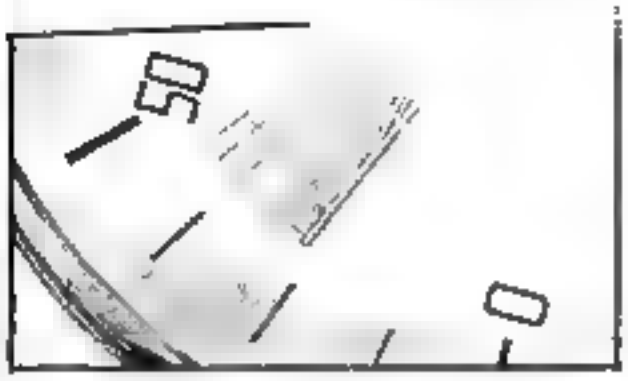
IT SEEMS USOGUI'S INTEL IS CORRECT... IT MAKES SENSE.

BY USING THIS THEORY, LOOKING BACK AT THE RESULTS OF THE 1ST ROUND AND 2ND ROUND...

ARE THE CARDS REQUIRED TO CREATE A ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH STILL REMAINING IN THE GAME?

BUT THE ISSUE HERE IS

WHETHER IT CAN BE CREATED OR NOT.



A 2 3 4 5

15 STRAIGHT FLUSH

VS

36 FOUR OF A KIND

8 8 8 8 4

THIS IS WHAT I THINK THEY ARE.

2 2 2 A A

8 FULL HOUSE

VS

39 FOUR OF A KIND

9 9 9 9 3

I HAVE TO THINK OF OTHER POSSI-BILITIES TOO...

BUT THIS IS SIMPLY MY THEORY.

THOSE 20 CARDS ANY-MORE.

WE CAN-NOT USE

MY THOUGHTS ARE ALREADY FULL JUST THINKING ABOUT THIS ONE.

BUT THERE IS NO TIME!!

A	2	3	4	5	2	2	2	A	A
8	8	8	8	4	9	9	9	9	3

HOW MANY HAVE BEEN USED...? ARE THERE ANY ACES LEFT?

WHAT ABOUT "ACES"...?

UP UNTIL NOW, NO CARD OVER 10 THAT HAS BEEN USED YET....

ONE ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH CAN STILL BE MADE.

JUST BARELY, BUT,

THERE IS STILL ONE ACE LEFT.

AND I WON'T BE ABLE TO MAKE

A ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH.

2 2 2 A A

BUT, IF THE FULL HOUSE IN THE 2ND ROUND WAS IN FACT...

A THREE OF A KIND OF ACES, THEN THERE ARE NO ACES LEFT ANYMORE.

A A A 2 3

ONLY "UNCERTAINTY" IS THE TRUTH...

EVERYTHING IS UNCERTAIN.

HIS CARD HAS BEEN SELECTED.

THE QUIETNESS IS NOW SURROUND-ING USOGUI. UNLIKE PREVIOUSLY

HE IS NOW CONTROLLING HIS BREATHING TO THE MINIMUM...

IS PROBABLY

MY "ACE CARD"

THE STRAIGHT FLUSH THAT CAN BE MADE BY "25".

8+4+5+6+7 =25

"25".

WAIT...

IF I WERE HIM, WHAT WOULD I DO?

HOLD ON...

HE JUST HAS TO WIN "ONE ROUND" OUT OF THE REMAINING 3.

TO ENSURE HE WINS ONE OF THE 3 REMAINING ROUNDS.

PROBABLY WANT TO USE HIS "ACE CARD"

AS BIG AS THEY HAVE BEEN UNTIL NOW... SO HE WOULD...

THE BETS WON'T BE

HOW-EVER,

7 10 J Q K A

WHAT IF I'M HOLDING A STRONGER HAND?

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF HIS "ACE CARD" LOSES?

HE NEEDS TO AVOID SUCH A DEVELOPMENT!

HIS "ACE CARD" WILL BE WASTED!!

HIS "47" AGAINST USOGUI'S "ACE CARD"!!

HAS TO DEFINITELY PLACE

ON THE OTHER HAND, LALO, WHO CAN'T ALLOW HIMSELF TO LOSE A SINGLE ROUND,

WHO WANTS TO MAKE LALO WASTE HIS!!

AND USOGUI,

LALO, WHO WANTS TO DESTROY USOGUI'S "ACE HAND",

HIM REVEALING THE LAW...

USOGUI HATED THE FACT THAT LALO WOULD END UP

IT WAS MUCH MORE THAN

TAKING HIM TO THE ABYSS WITH HIM

WAS ALSO...

USING HIS "ACE CARD" WITHOUT THINKING.

USE MY "ACE CARD" IN THE 3RD ROUND.

A TRAP TO MAKE ME

WHAT IF EVEN THIS THINKING OF MINE IS ALSO WITHIN USOGUI'S CALCULATION?

NO,

THEN...

IT MEANS...

IF ALL HIS ACTS WERE IN LINE WITH MY THINKING,

PLAY MIND GAMES WITH ME THAN LEAVE IT TO LUCK.

HE'D RATHER

WHY?

NO,

OF COURSE, IT WOULDN'T BE SURPRISING IF HE DID THAT MUCH.

USOGUI HAD SET UP PERFECT MIND-GAMING TACTICS.

HE
IS A
GAMB-
LER.

AFTER
ALL,

CHAPTER 442

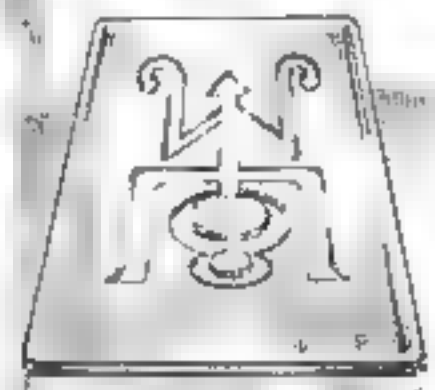
"ACE CARD" OR "BAIT"

IS IT THE "ACE CARD" FOR ASSURING A WIN?

OR IS IT

THE "BAIT" FOR DODGING MY "ACE CARD"...!?

WHAT EXACTLY



IS THAT CARD?

THIS GAME WILL BE TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM BEFORE.

FROM NOW ON,

BUT NOW...

THE "LAW" HAS BEEN REVEALED.

AND IT WAS BECAUSE THE "LAW" WAS UN-KNOWN.

THE REASON IT WAS SO INTENSE, WAS BECAUSE IT HAD BEEN A FIGHT OF BETTING ON "LUCK"... BETTING ON "ASSUMP-TIONS".

THE BETTING BATTLE UP UNTIL NOW,

HE'S IN TROUBLE!

HE HAS BECOME VERY CONFUSED... AND IS CONSUMING SO MUCH AIR RIGHT NOW!

BAKU-SAN...

HIS OWN ARENA, A STAGE OF MIND GAMES.

HE DRAGGED LALO INTO

EVERYTHING IS ADVANTAGEOUS TO BAKU-SAN RIGHT NOW!!

AND THE MIND GAMES HE HAS SET UP,

WITH THE NUMBER OF REMAINING AIR-BIOS,

OF CHOOS-ING.

THE 3RD ROUND

CHAPTER 442

"ACE CARD" OR "BAIT"

IT'S NOW POSSIBLE TO

"PREDICT" HOW STRONG THE CARDS ARE.

THE KEY TO THIS MATCH IS NO LONGER THE BETTING,

BUT THE TIME UNTIL THE CARDS ARE SHOWN.

IN OTHER WORDS, THIS 3RD ROUND IS...

THE KEY IS WHICH CARD DO YOU CHOOSE...

SO DISADVAN-TAGEOUS TO ME.

IT'S STILL

WHO NOTICED IT.

HE'S THE ONLY ONE

IS IT 50/50 RIGHT NOW?

50/ 50...

NO...

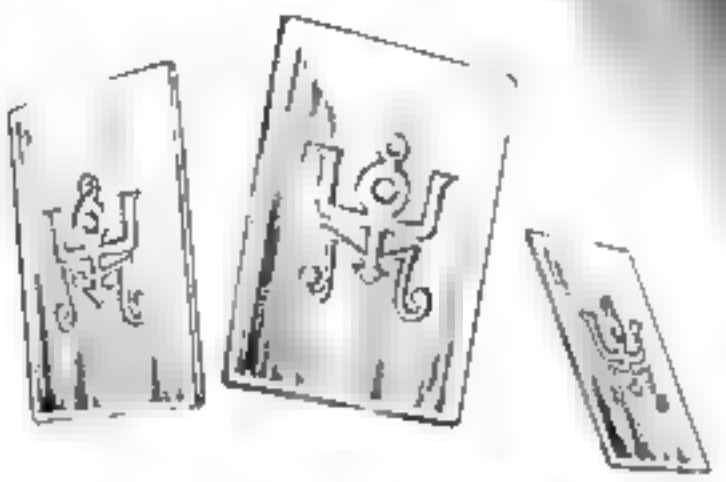
NO, NOT YET...

AND LALO'S.

HIS REMAINING CARDS

THE HUGE GAP BETWEEN

THE VALUE OF LALO'S REMAINING CARDS.



HE HAS CALCULATED

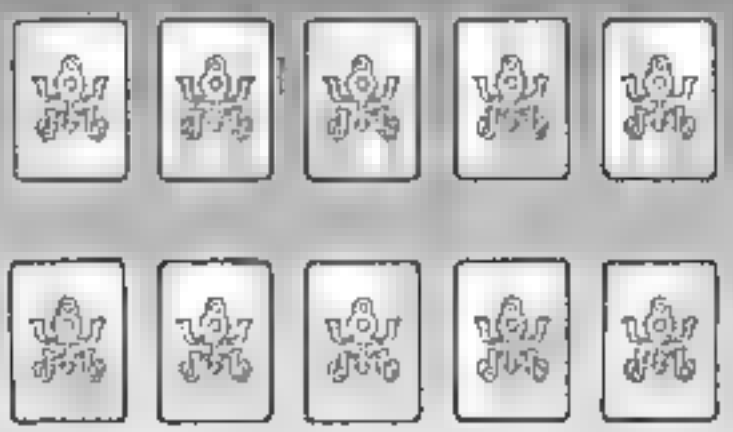
SHOULD MATCH THE SUM OF 50 CARDS IN A DECK.

ACCORDING TO THE LAW, THE SUM OF THE 10 CARDS THE TWO PLAYERS HAVE,

2

50

=



338 ~ 362

AFTER DEDUCTING 2 CARDS, THE SUM OF THE REMAINING 50 CARDS WILL BE BETWEEN 338 AND 362.

AND,

25 26 45 39 36

171

AMONG THEM, THE SUM OF USOGUI'S 5 CARDS IS 171

...

ARE PART OF THE SUM TOO.

15 8

THE 2 CARDS USED BY LALO...

171

THAT LALO'S HOLDING RIGHT NOW,

IN OTHER WORDS, THE THREE REMAINING CARDS

THE REMAINING SPACE.

144 ~ 168

WILL FILL UP

AND THE SUM OF MY 3 REMAINING CARDS IS VERY SMALL, "96".

ABOUT 50 FOR EACH CARD

IT'S ABOUT "150".

25 26 45

32 FOR EACH CARD

THAT'S THE SUM OF LALO'S REMAINING 3 CARDS.

嘘吐いた。

FOR ALL THE HANDS BELOW THEM,

EXCLUDING "STRAIGHT FLUSHES" AND HANDS WITH "ACES".

FROM NOW ON, IN THIS GAME,

THE BIG NUMBERS WILL GRADUALLY BECOME STRONGER.

THE BIGGER THE SUM, THE HIGHER THE CHANCE IT'LL BE A STRONG HAND.

K K K K Q

2 2 2 2 3

WHICH MEANS, IN THE DECK, THERE ARE STILL A LOT OF...

RIGHT NOW, NO CARDS HIGHER THAN 10 HAVE BEEN USED YET,

BIG NUMBERS THAT CAN BE USED TO MAKE BIG HANDS WITH A BIG SUM!!

J J J J 10 K K K K Q

10 10 10 10 J

MY CARDS ARE MORE DISADVAN-TAGEOUS...

THERE'S A HIGH CHANCE THAT LALO HAS A STRONGER HAND THAN MY STRAIGHT FLUSH.

AS THE GAME GOES ON,

IT'LL BE MORE AND MORE DIFFICULT TO MAKE A RARE HAND LIKE A STRAIGHT FLUSH. HOW BIG THE NUMBER OF THE METAL CARD IS WILL BE MORE AND MORE IMPORTANT.

USOGUI ONLY NEEDS ONE MORE VICTORY.

BUT THE WORST CASE SCENARIO DOES EXIST.

STRAIGHT FLUSH

ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF USOGUI'S "STRAIGHT FLUSH"

IS PLACED AGAINST LALO'S "ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH"? HIS "STRAIGHT FLUSH" WILL LOSE, AND,

ONE OF HIS STRONG HANDS, "45", WHICH CAN BE MADE AS A FOUR-OF-A-KIND OF JACKS...

J J J J A

45

10 10 10 10 5

26

THE DECK WILL RUN OUT OF "ACES". AND A "10" AND A "JACK" WILL BE USED.

A FULL HOUSE OF JACKS!

WILL END UP BECOMING

J J J

6 6

THE CHANCE OF USOGUI LOSING 3 TIMES IN A ROW WILL BE EXTREMELY HIGH!

...BUT, ON THE OTHER HAND, USOGUI WILL WIN WITH ONE MORE VICTORY,

IF HIS "ACE CARD" IS DESTROYED,

THE REMAINING CARDS WILL BE WEAKENED.

WHAT CARD... IS THAT?

BE PLACED AGAINST HIS "ACE CARD".

HAS TO

MY STRONGEST CARD, "47", WHICH IS A ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH,

HE INTENTIONALLY TOLD ME ABOUT THE LAW SO AS TO INDUCE ME TO PLAY THIS "47"... IT'S A TRAP!!

IT'S A BAIT!

THE CARD HE PLAYED IS NOT HIS "ACE CARD" !!

SHOULD BE AT LEAST A STRAIGHT FLUSH.

HIS "ACE CARD"

MY CARDS ARE ABLE TO MAKE A "STRONGER FOUR-OF-A-KIND" MORE EASILY...

...

A FOUR-OF-A-KIND?

WHAT IS USOGUI'S "ACE CARD"?

IN THE FIRST PLACE,

IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL IF IT'S A FOUR-OF A-KIND.

NO...

"KEEPING THE 'STRAIGHT FLUSH'

BY USING A BAIT CARD INSTEAD"...?

NO,

WAIT...

IT'S A "STRAIGHT FLUSH"!!

SO PLEASE PLAY A CARD WITHIN 10 SECONDS.

LALO-SAMA, ALTHOUGH WE DIDN'T SET A TIME LIMIT FOR SELECTING THE CARD, THIS WILL BE AN OBSTRUCTION TO THE GAME.

BOTH OF YOU

HAVE YOU NOTICED IT...?

NOW... BY USING LIMITED OXYGEN... WITHIN A LIMITED TIME...

HOW MANY STEPS HAVE YOU THOUGHT AHEAD?

HOWEVER, THOSE "ACE CARDS"...

HAVE YOUR OWN "ACE CARD".

ARE USED FIRST,

IF THE NECES-SARY CARDS

THEY CANNOT BE

CREA-TED ANY-MORE!

THEY ARE "ACE CARDS"

5!!

WHICH CAN-NOT BE KEPT!!

WILL VANISH

...

IF YOU DON'T USE THEM NOW!

嘘喰いの色。

YOU CAN ONLY DO IT ONCE.

THE CHANCE TO SUCCESSFULLY KEEP THE ACE CARDS IS PRETTY LOW...

ONCE AT MOST.

WHAT SHOULD I PLAY?

TO DESTROY HIS "ACE CARD"!?

THIS ONE!?

OR

WHICH ONE!?

IS IT?

WHICH SIDE

A "BAIT"?

IS IT

THE "ACE CARD"!?

OR IS IT

IS

SPIN-NING...

MY HEAD

USO-GUI...

SO THIS IS...

GAMBL-ING, HUH...

IT'S... EMPTY ALREADY!?

HE USED AN AIR-BIOS INSTANTLY!

HIS CONSUMPTION

KEPT UP WITH USOGUI'S.

THE CARDS HAVE BEEN SELECTED.

SIX OF 5-CARD POKER HANDS DRAWN FROM DIFFERENT

SHOW-
DOWN.

THE 3RD ROUND IS.

"47". VS "45"

THE 3RD ROUND BEGINS.

IT'S "45".

THE CARD HAS BEEN CONFIRMED.

THE CARD IS "47".

THE 3RD ROUND IS,

LV

LV

"47".

VS

"45"

CHAPTER 443
RESPECTIVE CONSIDERATIONS

47...

BREATHING THE 4TH AIR-BIOS

45... 45...

BREATHING THE 4TH AIR-BIOS

"45" AND...

"47"...

THEIR RESPECTIVE CONSIDERATIONS BEFORE SELECTING THEIR CARD...

REFEREE HERE, YAKOU.

HAVE POKER CARDS?

DOES ANYONE

THE ANSWER TO WHETHER THEIR OBJECTIVES WERE ACHIEVED...

AND THE RESULT OF THE MIND GAMES...

AH! THANK YOU, REFEREE MIDARA!

MOST OF THEM WILL FIND OUT THE TRUTH.

BUT DURING THESE TENS OF SECONDS,

WILL BE DIFFERENT FROM PERSON TO PERSON...

THE MEANS OF REACHING THE ANSWER

AND THEN THE SMALLER NUMBER WON.

THE BIGGER NUMBER WON.

IN THE 1ST ROUND,

WHICH MEANS THIS TIME WILL BE... GOT IT?

DID YOU FIGURE OUT ANYTHING?

"47"

AND

YEAH.

"45", HUH...

THESE TWO NUMBERS ARE CLOSE.

THE INMATES IN THE PANOPTICON,

THE PLAYERS OF PROTOPOROS.

THE NAME OF THIS GAME AGAIN?

WHAT IS

I GOT IT!

HURRY AND GET OUT!

HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO PLAY IN THE WATER!?

SO SCARY~

YOU'RE SCARY~

STOP PLAYING THIS GAME!

I'M GETTING REALLY EXCITED~

YES,

LIKE I SAID, IT'S *OKONOMI-YAKI.

SOME-HOW...

IT FEELS LIKE SOMETHING'S BEHIND THE "47"~

"47" ...

I'VE RESOLVED ALL THE PUZZLES!

?

I THINK I SAW A SILHOUETTE IN THE MIDDLE FLOOR...

*OKONOMIYAKI: A TYPE OF PANCAKE CONTAINING CABBAGE AND A VARIETY OF OTHER INGREDIENTS.

PLEASE START BETTING

LALO-SAMA,

NOW.

11 AIR-BIOS LEFT

25 AIR-BIOS LEFT

THE 3RD ROUND, BETTING TIME

IT'S DONE.

I'VE CONFIRMED THE CARDS THAT WERE USED IN THE 1ST AND 2ND ROUND WITH REFEREE NOWA. TAKE OUT THE CARDS I SAY.

NOT THAT ONE.

TAKE OUT THE CARDS THAT HAVE BEEN USED!!

AH!

OH.

NOW.

LET'S THINK ABOUT THE HAND OF "47" FIRST.

LET'S MAKE A HAND WITH A SUM OF "45"!

THEN WE'LL START WITH "45".

THE CARDS THAT WERE USED IN THE 1ST AND 2ND ROUND HAVE BEEN TAKEN OUT!

DONE! 32 CARDS LEFT!

"45" IS A MULTIPLE OF 5,

SO IT CAN BE MADE AS A STRAIGHT!

AND IF THERE ARE ENOUGH SUITS LEFT,

7 8 9 10 J

THEN IT WILL BE A STRAIGHT FLUSH!!

IS...

IS IT A STRAIGHT FLUSH!?

WHAT IS IT?

WHAT CAN "45" BE...?

WITH MY "47"!?

DID I DESTROY HIS "ACE CARD"

NO... IT CAN'T...

IT CAN'T BE MADE AS A STRAIGHT FLUSH.

THERE'S NOT A SINGLE 8 OR 9 LEFT!!

9...

8 AND

NOT ENOUGH !!

IN THE 1ST AND 2ND ROUND!!

THEY HAVE ALL BEEN USED

THIS...

THE 2ND STRONGEST HAND IS

NO,

IT'S NOT A STRAIGHT FLUSH.

OF JACKS!

A FOUR-OF-A-KIND

THE "45" IS

A FOUR-OF-A-KIND OF JACKS!

IT'S A ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH.

HUH?

A ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH.

WHAT ABOUT "47"!?

IS THE STRONGEST HAND IN POKER, ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH.

"47"

IN OTHER WORDS, IN THE 3RD ROUND, THE BATTLE BETWEEN "45" AND "47" IS...

...

THERE'S STILL ONE SUIT LEFT THAT IT CAN BE MADE IN.

A ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH.

VS

A FOUR-OF-A-KIND OF JACKS

THE STRONGEST HAND IN POKER ...!?

47

HAS A ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH...

LALO

WHAT THE HELL...

NO... NO WAY... LALO'S "ACE CARD"... WHAT... WHAT...

THE TOP RANK...

USOGUI

"47"...

WHAT A HUGE FISH

I'VE CAUGHT !!

USOGUI'S EYES... NO, ANYONE CAN TELL THAT "47" IS LALO'S "ACE CARD".

WHEN HE WAS FORCED TO LEARN THE "LAW". HE WAS PUSHED INTO A SITUATION WHERE HE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO USE THE "47"!!

LALO HAD FALLEN INTO A TRAP

NOWA SHION
REFEREE NO.6

BUT,

LALO CAN'T TELL IF THAT "45" IS USOGUI'S "ACE CARD" OR NOT.

47

10 J Q K A

THE CARDS NECESSARY TO MAKE A ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH WILL MOST LIKELY BE USED.

10 10 10 10 4

44

IF HE USED HIS "44" OR "63" INSTEAD,

K K K K J

63

AFTER THINKING, HE REALIZED THAT HE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO USE HIS "47"... IT'S LIKE HE'S TRAPPED IN A SPIDER WEB!

BECAUSE OF LALO'S HIGH INTELLIGENCE,

IT'S NOT AN ORDINARY BAIT,

THAT "45" IS NOT JUST FOR DODGING LALO'S "ACE CARD"...

THAT USOGUI SET FOR LALO'S ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH!!

...

AND IT'S BECAUSE OF THE BAIT...

EVEN IF LALO DIDN'T USE HIS "47", "45" COULD BE MADE AS A FOUR OF A-KIND OF JACKS AND CONSUME ALL THE JACKS, WHICH WOULD ALLOW HIM TO WASTE THE CARDS NECESSARY FOR THE ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH. IN THE MEAN TIME, IT'S NOT SO SMALL A HAND EITHER.

BUT A PERFECT ONE!

63

K K K K J

45

J J J J A

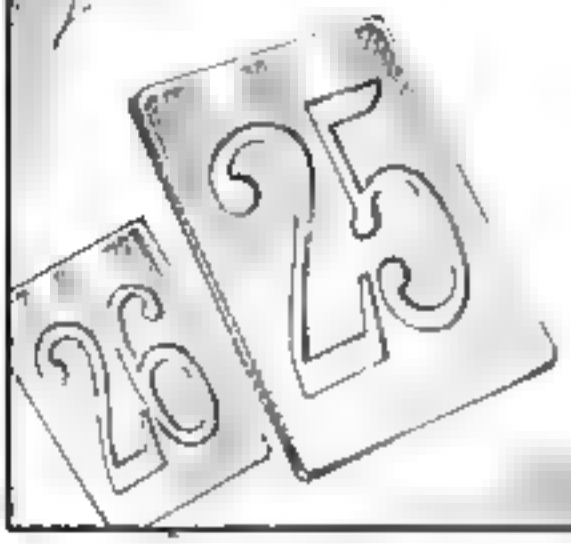
44

10 10 10 10 4

SUCCEEDED TOO!!
THE STRAIGHT FLUSH FOR HIS "25" STILL EXISTS!!
HE WON THIS DANGEROUS BET!

USOGUI'S BET ON KEEPING HIS ACE CARD, "25",

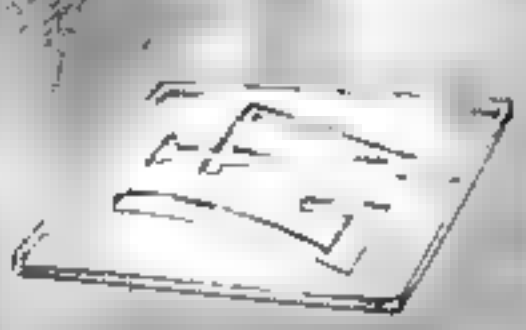
ALSO,



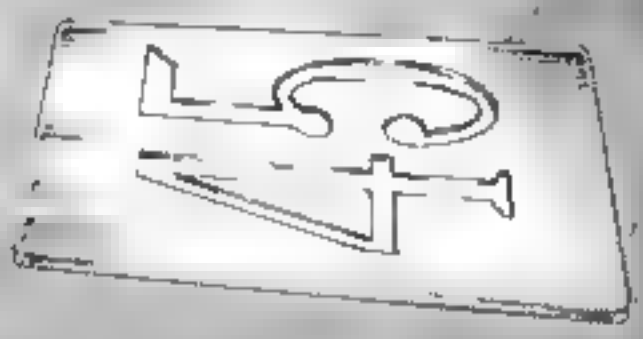
THE STRONGEST CARD RIGHT NOW IS USOGUI'S "25", A STRAIGHT FLUSH.

AFTER DEFEATING LALO IN THE 4TH ROUND... LALO'S LOSS WILL BE DECIDED!!

LALO'S "ACE CARD", 47, HAS BEEN WASTED BY USOGUI'S "BAIT",



IT IS A



PERFECT...

PERFECT CHOICE...

USOGUI WILL SUP-PRESS IDEAL'S BOSS, AND WIN

THIS MATCH ...

CRUSH-ING HIS OPPO-NENT

IN HIS OWN ARENA,

ゴゴゴゴゴ

SHION,
THE DEVELOPMENT
UNTIL NOW...
IT FEELS LIKE
SOMETHING STRANGE
IS GOING ON HERE...

SHION,

"BY KNOWING THE 'LAW',

YOU DID SAY THIS:

IT'S LIKE THOSE NUMBERS

07 = 1

33

CAN ALWAYS BE MADE INTO THE "STRONGEST HAND".

THE RESULT CAN BE 'CONJECTURED'"...
YOU SAID "CONJECTURED", RIGHT...?

ONLY IF...

NO ONE MAKES ANY MISTAKES...
THAT IS...

LALO BETS
2 AIR-BIOS

9
AIR-BIOS
LEFT

!

LALO-
SAMA
BETS 2
AIR-BIOS.

NOT THE LIMIT OF 3 AIR-BIOS.

HE BET 2 AIR-BIOS?

BUT 2? WHAT DOES IT MEAN!?

YOUR CARD IS THE STRONGEST, A ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH!

HUH!? HE LAID A BET!?

DO YOU REALLY THINK HE'LL RAISE THE BET AGAINST YOU LIKE BEFORE!?

HAD THEIR OWN CONSIDER-ATIONS.

DURING THIS SHORT TIME.

EVERY-ONE

DURING THE TENS OF SECONDS AFTER THE CARDS WERE SHOWN.

SO... LALO'S CARD IS A ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH OF HEARTS. HUH...

IGNORE HIM!!

MADARAME, YOU KNOW IT, RIGHT!? LALO'S CARD IS A ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH!

2...

BETTING 2...

WHAT?

AIR-BIOS...

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

HUH...? HUH? HUH?

!!

THIS IS!!

WAIT A SECOND... THIS...

LEAD TO?

WHAT WILL THIS...

NO WAY... EVEN ME, WHO'S LOOKING AT THE WHOLE PICTURE, COULDN'T REALIZE IT THAT FAST!!

DID HE BET THAT 2 AIR-BIOS AFTER CALCULATING THAT MUCH!?

BAKU-SAMA, 10 SECONDS LEFT FOR THE BETTING PHASE!

IT'S A COUNTER SWORD WHICH IS GOING TO PIERCE THROUGH ...

THIS BET OF 2 AIR-BIOS CAN MAKE USOGUI REGRET LET-TING LALO KNOW THE LAW.

USOGUI'S THROAT.

AT THIS MOMENT, LALO'S CONSIDER-ATION

HAS SURPASSED EVERYONE AT THE SCENE.

CHAPTER 444 THE DAZZLING PANOPTICON

CALL

OR

CALL & RAISE

OR

FOLD

HE BET 2...

THE TIME'S TICKING. WILL YOU FOLD, USOGUI? THIS 2 AIR-BIOS BET...

2 AIR BIOS...

!

BECAUSE FOLDING WILL NOT REVEAL THE RESULT OF THE GAMBLE. AND WHAT IF "FOLDING" IS EXACTLY...

FOLDING IS A POOR MOVE IN THIS GAME.

AS I THOUGHT.

WHAT IS HAPPENING? MADARAME IS STRANGE. IS HE HESITATING?

ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH

FOUR OF A KIND.

LALO'S 47 IS A ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH!!

AND MADARAME'S 45 IS A FOUR-OF-A-KIND OF JACKS, EVERYONE KNOWS THAT!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY NOT REVEAL THE RESULT!?

HE ALREADY LOST...

SHION,

THE LAW IS JUST A BASIS FOR CONJECTURE,

CAN BE "CONJECTURED" BY A CERTAIN "LAW". I'LL TELL YOU THAT MUCH.

WHETHER YOUR CARD WINS OR LOSES...

THE RESULT IS NOT FIXED YET... RIGHT?

UNTIL THE RESULT COMES OUT, THAT IS.

THAT NO ONE, EVEN MYSELF, CAN KNOW...

WHICH CARD ENDS UP WINNING IS SOMETHING

TO BE MORE SPECIFIC,

3

4

2

!

HAS NOT BEEN DISCOVERED YET.

THE SECRET HIDDEN FURTHER BEHIND THE LAW

1

CALL!!

CALL,
2
AIR-BIOS

HE CALLED!!
DON'T TELL ME
HE WILL ALSO
RAISE...

AND?

PLEASE
MAKE THE
CALCULATIONS.

SINCE IT'S JUST A
2 AIR-BIOS BET,
HE SURELY WOULD
LIKE TO CONFIRM
THE RESULT...
AND,

HE
WON'T
FOLD.

JUST A
CALL!!

EACH SIDE
ENDED UP
BETTING
5 AIR-BIOS.

TAP

TAP

*TL NOTE: IN POKER, SINGLE OR DOUBLE TAPPING MEANS TO END YOUR TURN.

LALO

14 AIR-BIOS

28 AIR-BIOS

USOGUI

⇦ 5 AIR-BIOS

IF HE LOSES, HE'LL LOSE 5 AIR-BIOS FROM HIS TOTAL.

THEY BOTH PLACED ON THE TABLE 5 AIR-BIOS, 3 FOR THE ANTE AND 2 AS A BET.

5 AIR-BIOS

LALO

+5
19 AIR-BIOS

−5
23 AIR-BIOS

USOGUI

USOGUI 23, LALO 19, IT'LL END UP LIKE THIS.

LALO

THE GAP IS STILL BIG ENOUGH

−4
15 AIR-BIOS

+4
27 AIR-BIOS

15. AND 27,

USOGUI

EVEN ONLY ACCOUNTING FOR THE 4 AIR-BIOS ANTE NEXT ROUND, IF USOGUI WINS, THEN THEIR AIR-BIOS WILL BE

AND RUN AWAY WITH AN ADVANTAGE OF 2 AIR-BIOS.

−5
22 AIR-BIOS

USOGUI

+5
20 AIR-BIOS

LALO

FOR USOGUI TO FOLD IN THE 5TH ROUND AFTER PAYING THE ENTRY FEE,

THE FACT THAT USOGUI WILL WIN THE MATCH WITH ONE MORE VICTORY WILL NOT CHANGE.

MEANING, AS LONG AS HE DOESN'T LOSE MORE THAN 5 AIR-BIOS THIS ROUND,

IT WILL BECOME: USOGUI 21 AIR BIOS, LALO 21 AIR BIOS.

AND THEN FOLD IN THE FIFTH ROUND AFTER WINNING THE FOURTH,

HE WON'T BE ABLE TO GET AWAY.

IF HE LOSES 6 AIR-BIOS NOW,

IF LALO HAD PLACED THE MAXIMUM BET OF 3 AIR-BIOS, USOGUI WOULD HAVE FOLDED... BECAUSE IN THAT CASE, THE WAGER WOULD HAVE BEEN A TOTAL OF 6 AIR-BIOS.

THAT IS NOT A FEAT ONE CAN NORMALLY ACCOMPLISH WHILE BEING SUBMERGED IN WATER.

HE IS REALLY SOMETHING ELSE.

BETTING TO THE LIMIT WHERE MADARAME CAN FOLLOW SAFELY!?

HE MANAGED TO PLAN THAT FAR IMMEDIATELY WHILE HE WAS ALSO CALCULATING THE CARDS!? IS IT A JOKE!?

THE RESULT HAS COME OUT.

AS IF HE WAS SAYING:

LALO HAS BAITED HIM INTO ACCEPTING THIS FIGHT,

MEANING,

"LOOK,

WITH ONLY 2 AIR-BIOS, IT IS SAFE FOR YOU TO LOSE, RIGHT?"

NOT 1,

NOR 3,

BUT 2...

PUSHING IT TO THE LIMIT

HE IS TRYING TO TAKE AS MANY AIR BIOS AS POSSIBLE.

45

VS

47.

THE WINNER IS

47!!

ズズ…

+5
19
AIR-BIOS
LEFT

-5
23
AIR-BIOS
LEFT

UNBE-
LIEVABLE.

EVEN THOUGH IT ONLY LASTED FOR AN INSTANT,

AFTER COMING BACK FROM A LOSS OF CONSCIOUS-NESS,

TO THINK HE WOULD BE ABLE TO THINK THAT FAR...

THE STRONGEST CARD IN THE LOT RIGHT NOW IS

25

USOGUI'S STRAIGHT FLUSH.

WITH THIS, LALO'S "ACE CARD"

WAS DESTROYED BY USOGUI'S BAIT...

ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH

VS

FOUR-OF-A-KIND OF JACKS.

BINGO... AWESOME... BOTH POKER HANDS WERE MADE AS THE BEST

AH~!! HE REALLY LOST!!! IT REALLY WAS A ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH~!!

WHAT WAS THE... POKER HAND?

WHAT WERE THE TWO POKER HANDS!?

PRESS

USOGUI WON THE MIND GAME.

NO, IT'S NOT.

THE UPPER AND MIDDLE FLOORS ARE STILL FAINTLY LIT UP.

SOMEONE SWITCHED OFF THE LIGHTS?

IDIOT, IT'S A POWER OUTAGE!

SPLASH

CLACK

CLACK

UH?

HUH!?

WHAT'S HAPPENING!? IT'S DAZZLING!

I CAN'T LOOK AT THE TOWER AT ALL!!

AH!

THIS IS QUITE SUDDEN, BUT,

A CALAMITY HAS OCCURRED.

HE WILL BE FORCED TO FORFEIT AS MANY AIR BIOS AS HE BET IN THAT ROUND

THE CALAMITY OCCURS

WHEN A PLAYER LOSES IN A SPECIFIC WAY

THE CALAMITY.

DID YOU REMEMBER ITS EXISTENCE AT ALL, USOGUI?

...

MINUS 5 AIR-BIOS

USOGUI, 18 AIR-BIOS LEFT

NO,

EVEN IF HE HAD THOUGHT ABOUT IT, IT'S QUITE PROBABLE THAT USOGUI WOULDN'T FOLD AT ALL.

A LIMITED TRAIN OF THOUGHT.

EVEN FOR THAT USOGUI, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO THINK OF EVERYTHING.... ESPECIALLY WITH HIS BODY IN CRITICAL CONDITION FROM ACCUMULATING THE DAMAGE OF A LOSS OF CONSCIOUSNESS.

DON'T TELL ME... THIS IS IT!?

!!

RIGHT, THE CALAMITY...

A... A CALAMITY FOR BAKU-SAN!?

BUT, THE TRUTH IS LALO SLIPPED IN THE OPPORTUNITY TO THINK A STEP FURTHER AND ADMINISTER AN EVEN STRONGER COUNTERATTACK.

INDEED, USOGUI WON THE MIND GAME.

WITH THIS, THE DIFFERENCE IN AIR-BIOS BETWEEN THE TWO IS NOW EXTREMELY CLOSE.

BAKU-SAN'S FOUR-OF-A-KIND,

AND,

LALO'S ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH...

THEY BOTH USED THESE 2 CARDS!!

ARE OVER-LAPPING!

THE CARDS

"ACE",

AND "JACK",

(360 SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM) THE CENTRAL TOWER OF THE PANOPTICON IS ALWAYS DAZZLING.

IT IS SO DAZZLING THAT THERE IS NOT A SINGLE PRISONER THAT IS ABLE TO LOOK AT IT DIRECTLY

HOWEVER, THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE GUARDS ARE ALWAYS WATCHING US...

BUT, THAT DOESN'T MATTER AT ALL.

WHETHER THEY WATCH US OR NOT, WE HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE THAN TO CURL UP IN OUR CELLS, WITH OUR BACKS TO THE LIGHT.

YES, NO DOUBT AT ALL.

CHAPTER 445

"THE CALAMITY" AND "THE GOD OF DEATH"

AS MANY AIR-BIOS AS HE BET IN THAT ROUND.

OH!!

HE MUST FORFEIT

THE CALAMITY OCCURS

IT DISAP PEARED.

!

FINALLY SETTLED DOWN.

THE LIGHT

WHEN A PLAYER LOSES IN "A SPECIFIC WAY",

BOTH OF THEM... REQUIRE THIS "ACE" AND "JACK"!

IN BOTH OF THEM,

BAKU-SAN'S FOUR OF A KIND OF JACKS,

LALO'S ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH AND

LOSING TO THE OPPONENT... WHEN BUILDING A HAND WITH OVERLAPPING CARDS!?

DON'T TELL ME IT'S...

THE CALAMITY OCCURS

DURING A VERY SPECIAL WAY OF LOSING...

ゴゴゴゴゴ

KAJI!! WE CAN FINALLY SEE THE TOWER!!

FOLDING IN THE 5TH ROUND WILL NOW ALLOW FOR A COMEBACK... USOGUI CANNOT RUN AWAY ANYMORE!

USOGUI 22 LALO 15

THERE'LL ONLY BE A SLIGHT DIFFERENCE OF 7 AIR-BIOS.

EVEN IF USOGUI WINS THE 4TH ROUND NOW,

MEAN-ING...

WITH THE CALAMITY, USOGUI LOST 5 MORE AIR-BIOS,

LALO, 19 AIR-BIOS LEFT

USOGUI, 18 AIR-BIOS LEFT

5 AIR-BIOS!!

THE AIR WAS RELEASED FROM THE SAME NUMBER OF AIR-BIOS HE BET!!

DISAPPEARED DUE TO THE CALAMITY!!

USOGUI HAD OF A CERTAIN WIN WITH ONE MORE VICTORY HAS NOW

THE ADVAN-TAGE THAT

THAT BASTARD!! THAT BASTARD!!

THAT BASTARD... NO WAY...

SHIT...

NO WAY...

HE BET ON THAT HAPPEN-ING...

OVER-LAPPING CARDS...

SHIT_

HE GOT ME!!

IT TOOK US ALL SO MUCH TIME EVEN THOUGH WE WERE USING AN ACTUAL POKER DECK!?

BUT, CAN ONE REALLY NOTICE THAT WITH ONLY A MERE DOZENS OF SECONDS!?

HE WAS PROBABLY THINKING THAT HIS BAIT SUCCEEDED.

WHEN USOGUI SAW LALO'S ACE CARD, "47", AS SOON AS THE CARDS WERE SHOWN,

I AM NOT SURE WHETHER USOGUI FORGOT ABOUT THE CALAMITY OR NOT, BUT,

AT THAT MOMENT, HE GOT SHOWN THAT BET OF 2 AIR-BIOS.

I'M AFRAID USOGUI'S MIND WAS IMMEDIATELY DISTRACTED WITH THINKING ABOUT THE MEANING OF THAT 2 AIR-BIOS BET AND HOW TO RESPOND.

IT IS STILL QUITE UNLIKELY THAT HE'D HAVE FOLDED.

BUT, EVEN IF HE DID THINK ABOUT THE OVERLAPPING CARDS AND THE CALAMITY,

USOGUI FOR SURE,

WOULD WANT TO CHECK WHAT OVERLAPPING CARDS WOULD CAUSE.

ALSO,

IF HE'S GOING TO USE HIS ACE CARD, "25", WHICH WILL MOST LIKELY HAVE OVERLAPPING CARDS IN THE LATE GAME,

25

THE "LAW" WAS STILL BEING CONFIRMED.

AFTER ALL,

AND "LOSING BY FOLDING" COULD ALSO ACTUALLY HAVE BEEN THE TRIGGER FOR THE CALAMITY.

AND ONCE THE CARDS OVERLAP, WHICH HAND WILL BE GIVEN PRIORITY?

FOR HOW LONG ARE THE CARDS ALLOWED TO BE MADE INTO THE HANDS HE CALCULATES?

IT'S NOT LIKE "45" HAD NO CHANCE OF WINNING EITHER...

IN THE FIRST PLACE, THE "LAW" IS ONLY

A WAY OF "CONJECTURING" THE RESULT.

THERE WAS A CHANCE TO PURCHASE A VICTORY WITH THAT 2 AIR-BIOS CALL.

AND LURED HIM INTO THE TRAP OF "CALLING".

PROVOKED USOGUI'S CURIOSITY.

THAT 2 AIR-BIOS BET WHICH SEEMED PRETTY LOW RISK AT FIRST GLANCE.

NO MORE OXYGEN!!

!!

ドン ドン

!!

HIS BREATHING PACE IS INCREASING RAPIDLY!

WITH THIS...

LALO, BREATHING **HIS 4TH** AIR-BIOS

19 AIR-BIOS LEFT

USOGUI, STARTED BREATHING **HIS 5TH** AIR-BIOS

17 AIR-BIOS LEFT

I FEEL OBLIGED TO THINK THAT

LALO BET THAT 2 AIR-BIOS AS A HIDDEN COVER, AND WAS ACTUALLY BETTING ON THE POSSIBILITY OF A CALAMITY.

IF THAT'S TRUE, THEN...

THAT EXPRESSION... HE MUST BE FURIOUS NOW...

EVEN FOR USOGUI, THIS IS QUITE A CRITICAL DEVELOPMENT !!

REALLY? MORE THAN AN ANGRY FACE, HE SEEMS TO BE LAUGHING

...HAPPY.

DEVIL-ISHLY...

USOGUI DEFINITELY INVITED BY HIMSELF THIS CALAMITY, WHICH ENDED UP DESTROYING HIM.

INTO THE WORLD OF THE "LAW".

THEY BOTH DOVE DEEPER INTO THE PROFOUND ABYSS.

WHILE GRIN-NING,

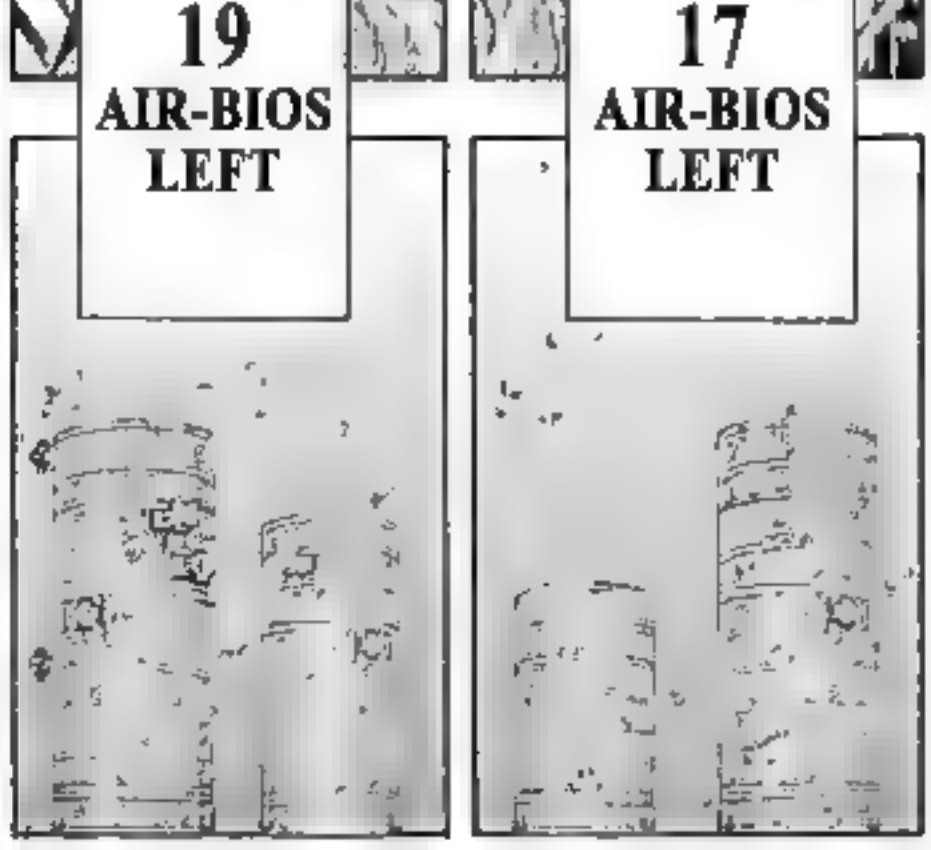
UNDER EVEN MORE EXCRU-CIATING PAIN, THEY HAVE TO...

AND PICTURE EVERY-THING IN THEIR HEADS.

MAKE HYPO-THESES

2 ROUNDS

UNTIL THE END.



THE AIR-BIOS OF LIFE,

19 AIR-BIOS LEFT

17 AIR-BIOS LEFT

WHAT IS THE MEANING BEHIND IT?

THE ANNOUNCE-MENT OF THE RESULTS,

THE TIME... THE TIME BETWEEN THE END OF THE BETTING PHASE AND

AND HERE, IN THE 3RD ROUND,

IT TOOK A LOT OF TIME UNTIL THE ANNOUNCEMENT, JUST LIKE IN THE FIRST ROUND!

IN THE 2ND ROUND,

IT WAS ANNOUNCED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BET WAS SET.

THE WINNER IS

"15".

IN THE 1ST ROUND,

THE RESULT CAME OUT A FEW DOZEN SECONDS AFTER THE BET WAS SET.

REASONING, IMAGINING, PICTURING,

ONE BY ONE,

PLACING

THE PIECES.

HOW ARE THE HANDS CREATED?

THIS IS NOW THE TIME WHERE ANYONE COULD AT LEAST END UP PONDERING THAT...

...MYSTERY.

BOTH SIDES HAVE 2 CARDS LEFT.

CHAPTER 446

THE HELPING HANDS

FIGHTING FOR THE AIR-BIOS OF LIFE!!

LALO
19 AIR-BIOS

USOGUI
17 AIR-BIOS

"AIR POKER", WHICH CHANGES ITS FACE IN EVERY ROUND, IS HARD TO COMPREHEND.

CHOOSING,

LUCK,

STRAYING,

THE SITUATION UP UNTIL NOW CAN BE DESCRIBED AS EBBING AND FLOWING!!

IT'S AN IMPOSSIBLE GAME FOR AVERAGE HUMANS.

ON TOP OF THAT, OXYGEN IS LIMITED, WHICH MEANS THINKING IS LIMITED.

ONLY THESE PEOPLE

CAN MAKE "AIR POKER" A POSSIBILITY.

!

HE'S CARVING ON THE TABLE SHALLOWLY...

TO BE GRINDING HIS TEETH,

BUT HE'S ACTUALLY MAKING SIGNALS ON THE TABLE... IS IT A MNEMONIC!?

HE'S NOW PRETENDING

RATHER THAN DIG UP THE REST OF THE CARDS,

THEY HAVE TO REDUCE THE BURDEN OF THINKING, DECREASING THE CONSUMPTION OF THEIR OXYGEN, EVEN IF IT'S ONLY A LITTLE BIT.

BY MEMORIZING THE USED METAL CARDS AND THE POKER HANDS THEY'VE ASSUMED WERE CREATED UNTIL NOW,

THEY SHOULD RESOLVE THE UNSOLVED MYSTERY FIRST.

THE CRUCIAL QUESTION IS, "HOW ARE THEY MADE?"

BUT,

WE'VE KNOWN THAT MYSTERY

THE NUMBERS ARE MADE UP BY 5 CARDS FROM A DECK OF POKER CARDS.

THE TIME GAP AFTER THE BETS WERE SET AND UNTIL THE RESULTS WERE ANNOUNCED IN THE 1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD ROUND.

THE KEY TO THE ANSWER... IS THE THING THAT'S BEEN BOTHERING ME,

3RD ROUND

2ND ROUND

1ST ROUND

ALTHOUGH THE TIME GAPS BETWEEN THE BETTING PHASE AND THE OUTCOME BEING REVEALED ARE DIFFERENT...

THINKING FROM ANOTHER ANGLE...

THE TIME GAPS IN THESE 3 ROUNDS ARE... "ALL DIFFERENT".

DIDN'T START AFTER THE BET WAS SET...

WHAT IF THE PROCESS OF JUDGING THE WINNING CARD...

BUT AFTER THE CARDS WERE SHOWN?

IF IT TAKES 1 MINUTE TO KNOW THE RESULT AFTER THE CARDS ARE SHOWN...

FOR EXAMPLE,

1ST ROUND

THAT'S WHY THERE WAS A FEW DOZENS OF SECONDS OF WAITING TIME

THE 1ST ROUND, WHERE THE BET WAS SET IMMEDIATELY,

3RD ROUND

BEFORE THE RESULTS WERE ANNOUNCED.

AND THE 3RD ROUND, WHERE THE BET WAS SET QUICKLY TOO BECAUSE THE BET WASN'T HIGH... THE BETS IN BOTH ROUNDS WERE SET WITHIN 1 MINUTE,

IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BET WAS SET.

THE RESULT CAME OUT

2ND ROUND

WE BOTH THOUGHT FOR SO LONG UNTIL THE LIMIT TIME WAS DUE,

BUT IN THE 2ND ROUND, WHERE THE BETTING TIME EXCEEDED 2 MINUTES BECAUSE

THE PROBLEM IS "WHO DECIDES THE HANDS?".

THIS ASSUMP-TION MAKES SENSE...

"THE PROCESS OF MAKING THE HANDS

STARTS WHEN THE CARDS ARE SHOWN"...

OR

IS IT THE REFEREE OF THIS MATCH?

A MACHINE ...!?

NO!!!

BAKU-SAMA...

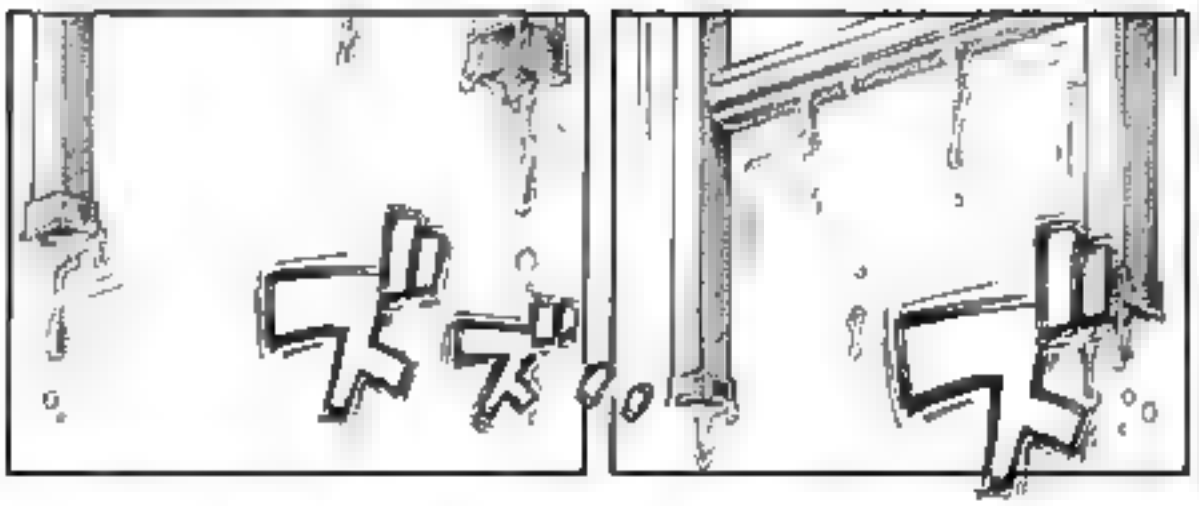
BAKU-SAMA...

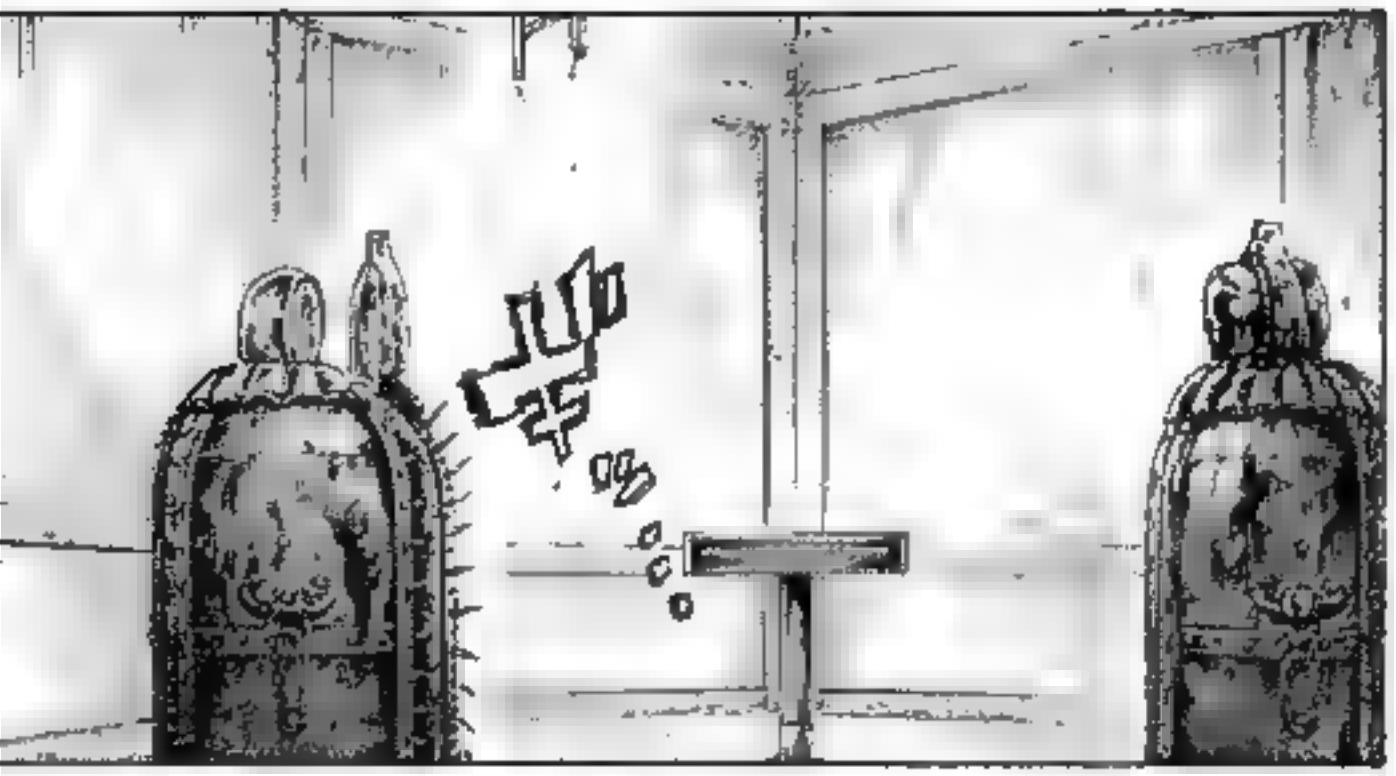
YOU HAVE TO THINK CLEARLY.

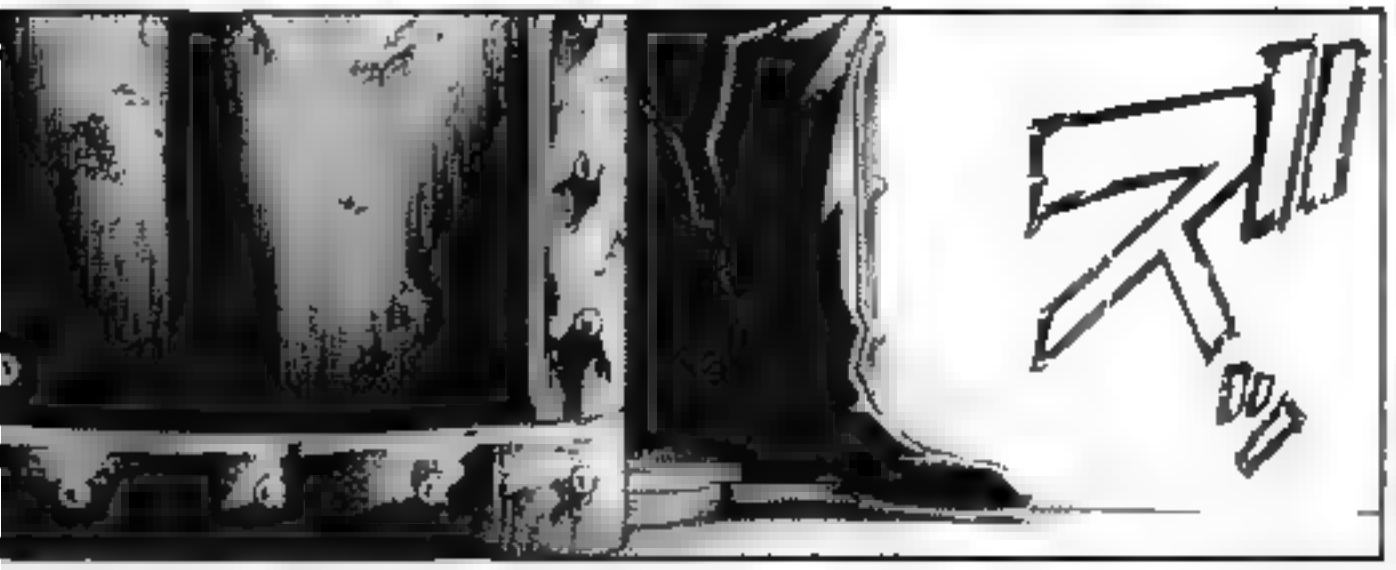
THEN YOU'LL UNDERSTAND.

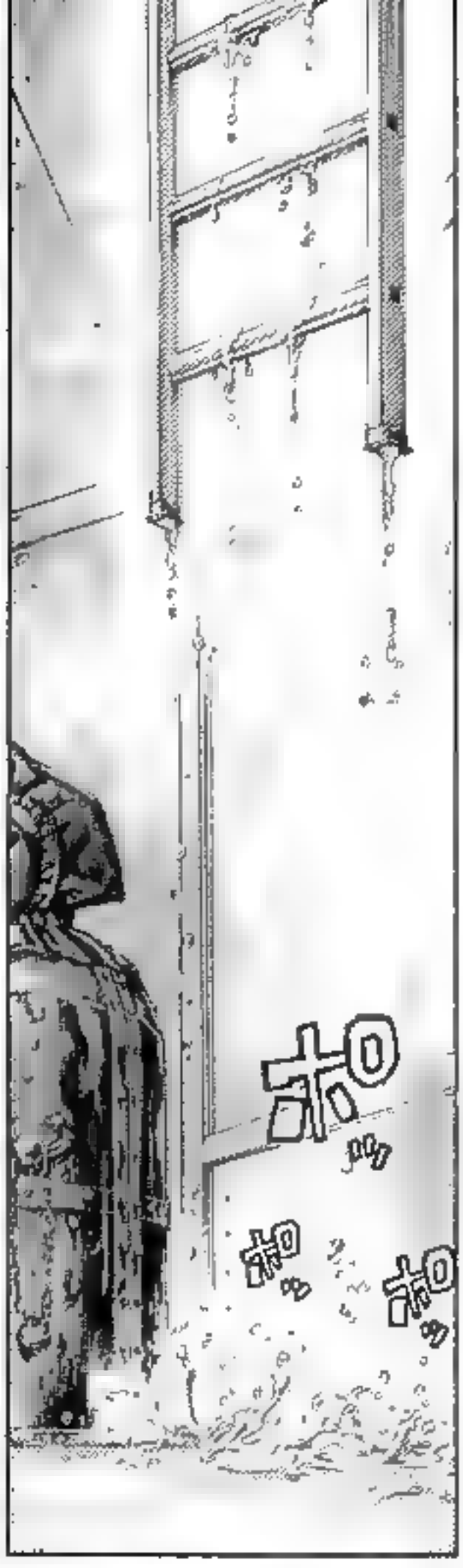
THINK CLEARLY.

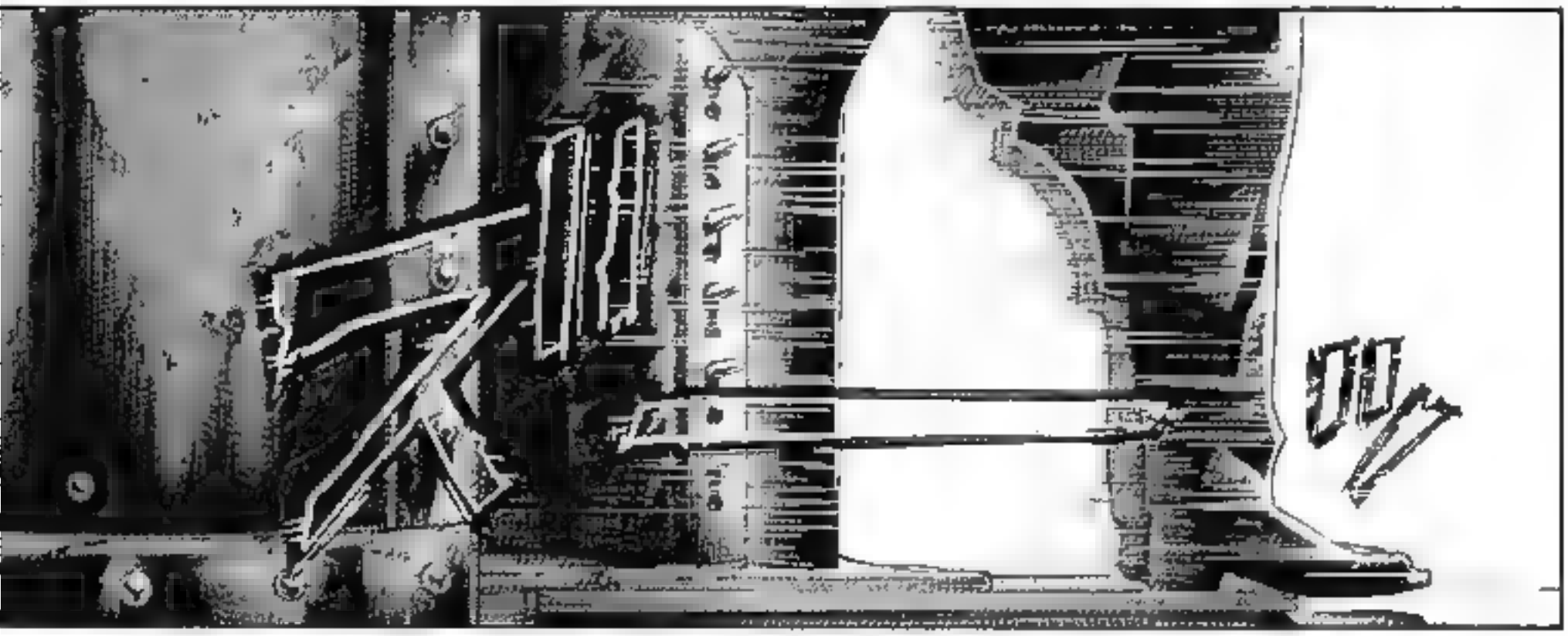
BAKU-SAMA.











WHY ISN'T LEADER HERE!?

THINK CLEARLY !!

!

IMPALE-
MENT...

KOKO...

GRAB

AND FUKUROU-SAMA HAD

47!!

HAL-SAMA HAD

45!!

WE'RE NOW ANNOUNCING THE RESULT.

THE WINNER

OF THE 3RD ROUND IS FUKUROU-SAMA!

HAL-SAMA USED "45".

JACK OF ♣

JACK OF ♠

JACK OF ♡

JACK OF ♢

ACE OF ♡

TO MAKE A FOUR-OF-A-KIND OF JACKS.

J J J A

KING OF ♡

QUEEN OF ♡

JACK OF ♡

10 OF ♡

FUKUROU-SAMA USED "47",

ACE OF ♡

TO MAKE THE HIGHEST RANKED HAND, A ROYAL STRAIGHT FLUSH.

MEANING... IT CAUSED A "CALAMITY".

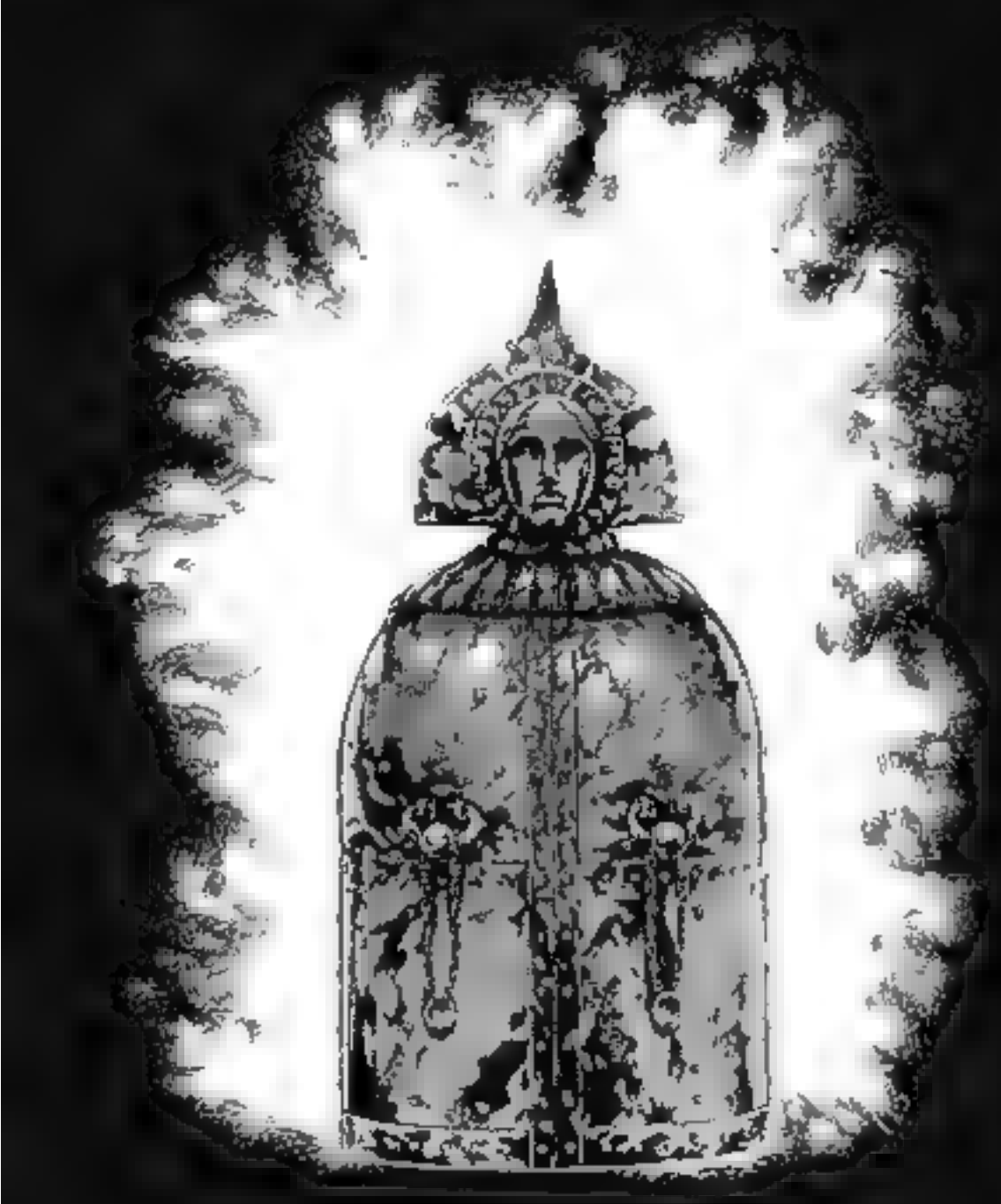
BUT THE "ACE" AND "JACK" OF HIS FOUR-OF-A-KIND OF JACKS... OVERLAPPED WITH MINE...

...THAT KID HAD "45"...

ズドーン
THEIR ALLIES, HAVE TO MAKE IT A HAND WITHIN 100 SECONDS...
AND THE PLAYERS ON TOP,
THE PLAYERS BELOW CHOOSE THE NUMBERS,

LET'S RETRACE THE TIME

BY A FEW HOURS.



THIS IS THE "AIR POKER" THAT WE CAME UP WITH.

ONLY THESE EXTRAORDINARY PEOPLE CAN MAKE IT A POSSIBILITY.

PUT AN END TO THIS.

WE SHOULD ALSO

CHAPTER 447
THE FLESH'S MEMORY

AN END...?

...

KID,

WHO...

WHO ARE YOU!?

WAIT...

STEP ASIDE, I'LL DEAL WITH YOU LATER...

IN ORDER TO GAIN SOMETHING, YOU CAN ONLY LOSE SOMETHING IN EXCHANGE FOR IT,

LISTEN,

OR WIN A GAMBLE.

FUJITSUBO, WHOSE BRAIN CAN'T KEEP UP WITH HIS AMBITION.

AND,

KURASHIKI, WHO LOOKS TOUGH BUT ACTUALLY QUICK TO RUN AWAY LIKE THE WIND.

OGINOME, WHO HAS A HABIT OF PICK-POCKETING.

OTHERS' GRIEF AND JOY... YOU HAVE TO PAY THE PRICE FOR ACTING LIKE A DOMINATOR, A CREATOR...

CONTROL-LING,

AND MANIPU-LATING...

SPYING,

YOU'VE BEEN LIVING BEYOND YOUR MEANS.

YOU HAVE TO PAY.

WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO...?

WHAT...

NOW... YOU THREE, LOG IN TO THE MAIN COMPUTER.

TILL TOMORROW, THE 31ST.

AND EXTEND LALO'S "THRONE"

REWRITE THE RULES OF THE GAME...

DO YOU THINK WE'LL AGREE!?

WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?

I SEE,

THEN BET YOUR LIFE ON THE TRIGGER.

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE !!

THERE'S NO WAY WE'LL BETRAY THE TRUST OF THE "PLAYERS" LIKE THAT!

WAIT...
I'LL DO IT.

OGINO-
ME!?

IN THIS
SITUATION...
IT'S NOT ABOUT
BETRAYING THE
PLAYERS...

OGINO-
ME...

!!

HUH?

WHA!?

?

DO YOU THINK YOU CAN TRICK ME?

FOOL,

O-OGINOME!!

SEE...? YOU ONLY THINK ABOUT RUNNING AWAY.

I DON'T KNOW! ONLY DAIBA KNOWS IT!

NOW, THE HANDS AND LEGS ARE DONE.

REWRITING THE SYSTEM REQUIRES THE PASSWORDS FROM ARATA AND DAIBA!

NO, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

I ALREADY HAVE "ARATA'S PASS WORD". TELL ME "DAIBA'S PASSWORD", KURASHIKI

I KNOW THAT.

IS

THE BRAIN, HUH...

THE LAST ONE...

!!

"IF THEIR OBJECTIVE IS SURPASSING THE LEADER",

"HE WON'T KILL ME, WHO'S THEIR TARGET".

I INDUCED HIS ACTION.

I KNEW HE'D DO THIS.

WHISPER

DON'T WORRY.

HE WON'T SHOOT ME.

I

AM GOING TO SHOOT.

TOO BAD.

HE WON'T SHOOT.

DA-

DAIBA!

WHAT YOU'RE DOING IS MEANINGLESS.

BUMP BUMP BUMP

I WONT ALLOW YOU TO KILL MY COMRADES ANYMORE.

……

I'VE BLINDLY RESETED MY PASSWORD! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO LOG IN TO THE SYSTEM ANYMORE!!

WHAT A WASTE.

…

YOU RAN OUT OF BULLETS.

YOUR GAME

IS OVER.

WHAT MAKES PEOPLE

AND WITHIN LIFE,

WITHIN GAM-BLES,

A WASTE..?

FEEL THREATENED ..?

"THAT'S NOT THE CASE"... WHILE GETTING GOOSEBUMPS, THIS MAD MAN THOUGHT.

IT MUST BE... REALITY.

WHILE FACING THE REALITY THAT'S MOST LIKELY GOING TO HAPPEN,

PEOPLE WILL FREEZE, FEELING THREATENED...

OOOOOHH

I CAN'T...

WELL...

STAND IT...

"WELL DONE DODGING THE BULLET". THE MAD MAN SWALLOWED THE WORDS HE WAS ABOUT TO SAY.

AND HIS SPIRIT QUIVERED AT THE THRILL OF HIS EVIL DEED

WHAT A CUNNING GUY...

OGINOME...

!!

KO

KA

KA

KA

KA

KA

BUT YOU WERE ACTUALLY GOING FOR THIS GUN.

YOU SEEMED TO HAVE ACCEPTED MY REQUEST,

AND WALKED TOWARDS THE MAIN COMPUTER,

!

A WASTE, YOU SAID?

IT'S BECAUSE THE FACT THAT YOU SHOWED UP HERE

PRETTY MUCH MEANS THAT "REWRITING THE SYSTEM BY USING THE PASSWORDS" WAS ALREADY IMPOSSIBLE.

TO ASK WHY,

AND PICK UP THIS GUN ALL ALONG.

MY PURPOSE WAS TO GO TO THE MAIN COMPUTER

SO, WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW?
IF I DESTROY THE COMPUTER,

MAYBE IT'LL GIVE ME SOME PEACE?

THE SYSTEM WILL STOP...

AND USOGUI'S VICTORY WILL BE IN VAIN.

A BLUFF CAN ONLY BE A THREAT

BY MAKING THE OPPONENT BELIEVE THE BLUFF IS REAL, CONVINCING THEM THAT YOU'RE REALLY GOING TO DO IT

BLUFFING.

ONE OF THE SKILLS OF GAMBLING.

WAIT,

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

AND NOW,

NO ONE SUSPECTS THAT THIS IS A BLUFF.

I AM GOING TO SHOOT...

NOW PAY THE PRICE FOR STOPPING MY RIGHT HAND.

YOU GOTTA PAY BEFORE YOU CAN GAIN SOMETHING.

KOKO KO...

A KAKEROU MATCH.

CAN ONLY BE POKER.

THE GAME

HE DOESN'T REMEMBER.

BUT.

?

TWITCH

HIS BODY

IS RESISTING THIS MATCH.

CHAPTER 448

AIR POKER

!

I...

ONCE LOST TO FUKUROU ...?

COULD IT BE

I CAN SEE THE FEAR ON YOUR FACE...

YOU ARE SCARED TO GAMBLE WITH ME AGAIN?

CHAPTER 448
AIR POKER

HOLD ON TO ME FIRMLY AND HANG IN THERE!!

DAIBA,

OUCH...

AH...

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BET?

A GAMBLE, IS IT?

I DON'T THINK THAT I HAVE THE RIGHT TO BET SOMETHING THAT CAN DECIDE THE WIN OR LOSS OF THE WHOLE 半荘(BAN) MATCH.

I'M ONLY HIS ALLY.

THE RIGHT TO "BECOME KAISER IN ONE DAY" THAT USOGUI'S TEAM HAD BEEN PLANNING TO DO,

MOREOVER, I CURRENTLY DO NOT POSSESS ANY "VESTS", NOR DO I HAVE ANY "KING CANDIDATES" UNDER ME.

THE VESTS OF THE 3 KING CANDIDATES.... IN OTHER WORDS, I'LL BET THE THRONE OF THE NEXT KAISER.

SEEMS THESE NEGOTIATIONS ARE OVER...

IT'S ABOUT TIME... IF THEY CAN'T MAKE IT, I CAN STILL SHOOT...

I SEE...

!

ｽﾁｬｰ...

...

FUKUROU-SAMA.

HERE HE COMES...

COMING HERE.

USOGUI IS

IN THE FIRST PLACE, THOSE TWO ARE THE ONES WHO OWN THOSE "WAGERS"...

THIS IS QUITE A SHAME, BUT THE SAME WAGER CAN'T BE PLACED AT THE SAME TIME.

!

VINCENT LALO HAS ALREADY MADE HIS REQUEST FOR A KAKEROU MATCH.

REQUESTING THE RIGHT TO BECOME KAISER IN ONE DAY, WHILE TAKING RYUUSEI, ONE OF THE KING CANDIDATES, AND HIS VEST HOSTAGE.

AND FIGHT TO THE DEATH

THEY WILL WITHOUT A DOUBT BET THEIR EVERY-THING,

IN THIS MATCH.

WE WILL BE PRESIDING OVER

WE HAVE A PROPOSAL FOR YOU.

THIS MATCH.

WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO PROPOSE A GAMBLE THAT HAS NO PRECEDENT.

AS LONG AS WE HAVE THE DEVELOPERS' SUPPORT AND A LITTLE TIME,

THERE ARE MANY INTERESTING FACILITIES HIDDEN IN THIS HQ.

VINCENT LALO.

VS

MADARAME BAKU

AND,

FUKU-ROU.

VS

HAL

HOW ABOUT WE MAKE IT A TWO VERSUS TWO?

TO RESPOND TO FUKUROU WHO IS DOMINATING THIS SCENE RIGHT NOW,

THE GAME WILL BE LIMITED TO POKER.

HOW-EVER,

YOU ARE BOTH ALLIES ONLY...

SO,

YOU WILL ONLY BE SUPPORT-ING THEM ON THE SIDE.

LET US EXPLAIN THE RULES OF THE GAME.

THEN,

THE PREPARATIONS ARE OVER.

RIGHT NOW, WATER HAS BEEN POURED IN AND

THE ROOM IS COMPLETELY FLOODED.

WILL HAVE THEIR GAMBLE.

THE 1ST FLOOR YOU BOTH WENT THROUGH JUST NOW WILL BE

THE AREA WHERE VINCENT LALO AND USOGUI

OF THE PANOPTICON'S SURVEILLANCE TOWER.

...

IRON MAIDENS...

THIS ROOM IS LOCATED ON THE 2ND FLOOR...

THEY WILL BOTH BE SELECTING ONE CARD OUT OF 5,

AND WILL THEN SHOW IT.

THEN, THEY'LL GUESS WHO WINS OR LOSES

AND BET AIR ON IT.

35... 6...?

?

IF THEY DROWN AND DIE, THEY LOSE... THE GAME IS CALLED "AIR POKER"

THE RESULT WILL BE

MY "35".

AND

MY "6".

DECIDED BY YOU TWO,

WHO WILL CHANGE THESE NUMBERS

INTO POKER HANDS.

A FOUR-OF-A-KIND OF ACES.

!

I'LL EXPLAIN.

A FOUR-OF-A-KIND OF ACES, MADE OF 4 ACES AND A 2.

THAT "6" IS

...

AND "6"...

"35" ...

THE SUM OF A 5 CARD POKER HAND.

JUST AS YOU GUESSED, THAT NUMBER IS

WONDER-FUL.

WO-

THE ONLY HAND WHICH CAN BECOME A TOTAL OF "6" IS

A FOUR-OF-A-KIND OF ACES WITH A 2.

$A + A + A + A + 2 = 6$

BUT, THE WEAKEST HAND THAT CAN BE CREATED, EXCLUDING HIGH CARD, IS...

A PAIR OF 2S.

2 2 9 10 Q

"35" CAN BE OBTAINED THROUGH A VARIETY OF HANDS FROM STRONG TO WEAK.

I CANNOT IMAGINE ALL OF THESE HANDS RIGHT NOW...

THEN, WHAT ABOUT "35"?

5, THE STRONGEST HAND IS A 6, 7, 8, 9, OF THE SAME SUIT

A STRAIGHT FLUSH.

IN THIS FIGHT BETWEEN "35" AND "6 ",

CORRECT... YOU TRULY ARE PERCEPTIVE.

5 6 7 8 9 STRAIGHT FLUSH

ONLY WHEN "35" IS MADE AS THE STRAIGHT FLUSH,

A FOUR-OF-A-KIND OF ACES.

CAN IT DEFEAT THE "6",

A A A A 2 FOUR OF A KIND

CANNOT WIN AGAINST IT.

A A A A 2

8 8 8 8 3

SO APART FROM THE STRAIGHT FLUSH, ANY OTHER HANDS OF "35"...

A FOUR-OF-A-KIND OF ACES IS A STRONG HAND,

THE GAMBLE WILL THEREFORE BE A MAXIMUM OF 5 ROUNDS.

YOU WILL USE THE SAME DECK OF CARDS AT THE SAME TIME.

PLEASE SELECT 5 CARDS, INCLUDING THE SUIT, WITHIN 100 SECONDS.

BUT, "USOGUI'S NUMBER WILL ONLY BE PRESENTED TO HAL-SAMA",

AND "VINCENT LALO'S NUMBER WILL ONLY BE PRESENTED TO FUKUROU-SAMA".

36

15

WE'LL PRESENT THE NUMBERS TO YOU.

AFTER THE TWO BELOW CHOOSE AND SHOW THEIR CARDS,

WHERE EVEN A SINGLE LOSS COULD LEAD THEM TO DEATH!!

THE MATCH DOWN THERE WILL BE A DEATH GAME,

YOU TWO HAVE TO ALWAYS CREATE THE STRONGEST HAND.

YOU WILL LOSE THE ROUND.

OR USE THE SAME CARD FOR A SECOND TIME WHEN IT WAS ALREADY USED PREVIOUSLY.

IF YOU CAN'T CHOOSE YOUR CARDS WITHIN THE LIMITED TIME, OR MAKE A MISTAKE BY NOT MATCHING THE SUM OF THE 5 CARDS TO THE PLAYER'S CARD,

YOU WILL NOT USE CARDS FOR THIS POKER.

INDEED.

MEAN-ING...

USING FOR A SECOND TIME?

A POKER WITHOUT CARDS.

THE 52 CARDS IN YOUR HEAD.

YOU CAN ONLY USE

YOU'RE GOING TO PLAY IT WITHOUT TANGIBLE CARDS.

THIS GAME IS ALSO AN "AIR POKER".

WITHOUT USING AN ACTUAL DECK...

"AIR POKER".

THE CARDS YOU'LL BE USING ARE ONLY THE CARDS IMAGINED IN YOUR HEAD...

CHAPTER 449
WITCH PAIN

CHAPTER 449
WITCH PAIN

THE PLAYERS ON THIS FLOOR HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THE LAW PERFECTLY.
UNLIKE THE FIGHT HAPPENING BELOW,
THEN, I'LL FINISH THE EXPLANATIONS QUICKLY.
UNDER-STOOD.
USOGUI AND LALO HAVE ARRIVED.

UTILIZING THE NUMBER THE TWO BELOW HAVE SELECTED...

IT'S AN UNPRECEDENTED POKER, A LINKED 2 VS 2.

I SEE...

35

5 6 7 8 9

STRAIGHT FLUSH

WIN

WE WILL CREATE A HAND WHOSE SUM MATCHES IT.

6

A A A A 2

FOUR OF A KIND OF ACES

LOSE

AND THEY WILL FIGHT ON

WITHOUT KNOWING ANY OF THIS.

THE RESULTS OF THE FIGHT ON THE UPPER FLOOR

WILL BE DECIDED BY THE NUMBERS THE LOWER FLOOR CHOOSES...

STRAIGHT FLUSH

FOUR OF A KIND OF ACES

Win

Lose

Win

Lose

OF THE FIGHT BETWEEN THE MYSTERIOUS NUMBERS IF THEY RESOLVE IT.

AS A LAW THAT CAN HELP THEM CONJECTURE THE RESULT

CORRECT.

WE WILL EXPLAIN THIS FACT TO THEM...

BUT WE BELIEVE THEY WILL END UP REACHING A CONCLUSION IN THE 4TH OR 5TH ROUND.

AND HOW THE FIGHT UNFOLDS,

AND OF COURSE, THIS WILL DEPEND ON THE 5 CARDS THEY SELECT.

KO KO...

HOW NAIVE...

10 10 10 10 A

THE CONCLUSION THAT

41

THE NUMBERS ARE THE SUM OF POKER HANDS,

WHICH COME FROM A SINGLE DECK THAT BOTH PLAYERS SHARE.

...

IT WOULDN'T BE STRANGE

FOR THOSE GUYS,

EVEN IF THEY MANAGE TO RESOLVE IT AT THE BEGINNING, IN THE 1ST OR 2ND ROUND...

YOU'VE BEEN BY USOGUI'S SIDE FOR SO LONG... YOU SHOULD KNOW HIM WELL.

!

YOU ALSO THOUGHT THE SAME THING, RIGHT?

BUT, IT'S NOT LIKE BEING ABLE TO RESOLVE THE LAW WILL NECESSARILY END UP AS A GOOD OMEN FOR THEM ANYWAY...

ESPECIALLY IN THE WATER, WHERE OXYGEN IS LIMITED...

ESPECIALLY LALO. IT'S DOUBTFUL IF HE WILL EVEN TRY TO RESOLVE THE LAW AT ALL...

ABOUT THE THINGS THAT HAPPENED...

BETWEEN USOGUI... AND ME...

I DO NOT KNOW...

!

?

IN... DEED...

THIS IS THE FINAL CAVEAT.

!

THEN, LET ME EXPLAIN THE REMAINING RULES.

THE NUMBER WRITTEN ON THE 5 CARDS THEY DREW FROM THE 10 CARDS PLACED BELOW.

THE TWO PLAYERS "BELOW" WILL ONLY KNOW

APART FROM US TWO REFEREES,

SHOWING THEIR CARDS.

ONLY WHEN

THEY'LL KNOW THE OPPONENT'S CARDS

MEANING,

?

YOU WILL NOT KNOW THE OPPONENT'S CARD UNTIL THE END OF THE ROUND.

?

HOWEVER, ON THIS FLOOR, WE'LL ONLY LET YOU KNOW WHAT CARD YOUR PARTNER USES IN EACH ROUND.

THE SAME CARDS AT THE SAME TIME.

A 2 3 4 5

4 4 4 A

THERE IS A CHANCE YOU'LL END UP USING

A 2 3 4 5 STRAIGHT FLUSH

WIN

4 4 4 4 A

FOUR OF A KIND

"CALA-MITY".

THIS IS CALLED THE

HOWEVER, FOR THE ONE WHO LOSES.

17

15

WIN

THE SAME NUMBER OF AIR-BIOS THAT HE BET ON THE TABLE WILL BE EMPTIED FROM HIS REMAINING PILE.

EVEN IF THE CARDS END UP OVERLAPPING, IT WON'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT THE STRONGER ONE WINS.

AN INCIDENT THAT CAN BE HARD TO PREDICT FOR BOTH FLOORS.

I BELIEVE THE CALAMITY WILL END UP OCCURRING MORE OFTEN DURING THE ENDGAME, WHERE THERE ARE FEW REMAINING CARDS IN THE DECK.

WE NORMALLY USE 10 CARDS IN A ROUND, BUT,

□□□□□ □□□□□

IT CAN BECOME UNDER 10 CARDS IN THESE CASES:

1. CARDS OVERLAP AND CAUSE A CALAMITY.
2. A PLAYER CAN'T CREATE A HAND WITHIN THE TIME LIMIT.
3. A PLAYER LOSES FOR REUSING A CARD THAT HAS ALREADY BEEN USED.

THE PLAYERS BELOW CAN END UP IN QUITE A BAD POSITION DUE TO SUCH AN UNFORESEEABLE INCIDENT.
IT'S PROBABLY A MISFORTUNE TO THE PLAYERS ON THE UPPER FLOOR WHO CANNOT DO ANYTHING EXCEPT MAKING THEIR NUMBERS INTO A HAND.

BY THE WAY, IF BOTH OF YOU TWO END UP MAKING A MISTAKE AT THE SAME TIME, YOU WILL BOTH BE GIVEN ADDITIONAL 100 SECONDS TO MAKE A NEW HAND.

PEOPLE OFTEN

END UP REGRETTING THEIR DESTINY...

DO AS

YOU PLEASE.

HOWEVER... NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU REGRET IT,

THINGS WILL BE WHAT THEY WILL BE.

I BELIEVE

IT IS CALLED A SUPER-ORGANISM.

A GROUP OF CREATURES, ACTING LIKE THEY ARE JUST ONE UNIQUE ENTITY, RALLIED UNDER ONE COMMON THOUGHT.

JUST FOR THIS MOMENT,

PLEASE FOCUS YOUR ENTIRE EXISTENCE ON BEARING THE ROLE OF ALLIES FOR THEM.

WELL, IT IS FAR FROM A GROUP BUT, IN THIS GAME, THE TWO PLAYERS IN THE LOWER AND UPPER FLOOR

ARE ACTUALLY LINKED JUST AS IF THEY WERE ONE.

...

YOU'VE MADE UP IN SUCH A SHORT TIME, REFEREES...
DIS- TASTEFUL GAME OF POKER
WHAT A...

THEN?
THEN...?

BE BETTING?
THEN WHAT WILL WE
THEY WILL BE BETTING AIR BELOW...

IN THIS IRON MAIDEN?
WILL WE BE IMPALED

THAT WAS HOW THE IRON MAIDEN WORKED IF I RECALL CORRECTLY.

BUT, THIS IS NOT GOOD AT ALL...

THERE WILL NOT BE ANYONE TO PLAY SURPASSING THE LEADER WITH IF HAL ENDS UP DYING... WHAT A FARCE... SHOWING US THIS KIND OF THING... WHAT EXACTLY ARE YOU THINKING...?

IN EACH ROUND?

THERE ARE 5 ROUNDS IN THIS GAME.

SO WE'LL BE IMPALED DEEPER AND DEEPER

AND DIE...?

A FACILITY FOR OUTSOURCING TORTURE.

THIS ISLAND USED TO BE

NOT AN IRON MAIDEN, BUT...

AND, THIS IS...

BUT BREAKING THE MIND.

THE GOAL OF TORTURE ISN'T DEATH,

WITCH PAIN

ALSO KNOWN AS BITCH PAIN.

BECAUSE THEY WERE HATED OR ENVIED.

SUFFERED CERTAIN TYPES OF PAIN AS THEY DIED

THE NAME COMES FROM ALL THE WOMEN WHO

THIS IS AN INSTRUMENT OF TORTURE FOR INFLICTING PAIN.

JUST AS THE NAME STATES,

WITCH

PAIN...

WHAT IS PAIN IN THE FIRST PLACE...?

PAIN...

AND THEN THE CONTENTS OF THAT SIGNAL ARE INTERPRETED BY THE BRAIN.

YOU DO UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS ALL DUE TO THE SIGNALS SENT TO THE BRAIN, RIGHT?

AND THIS IS WHEN YOU START FEELING "MY FINGER IS HURT".

LET'S SAY, ONE GETS HURT.

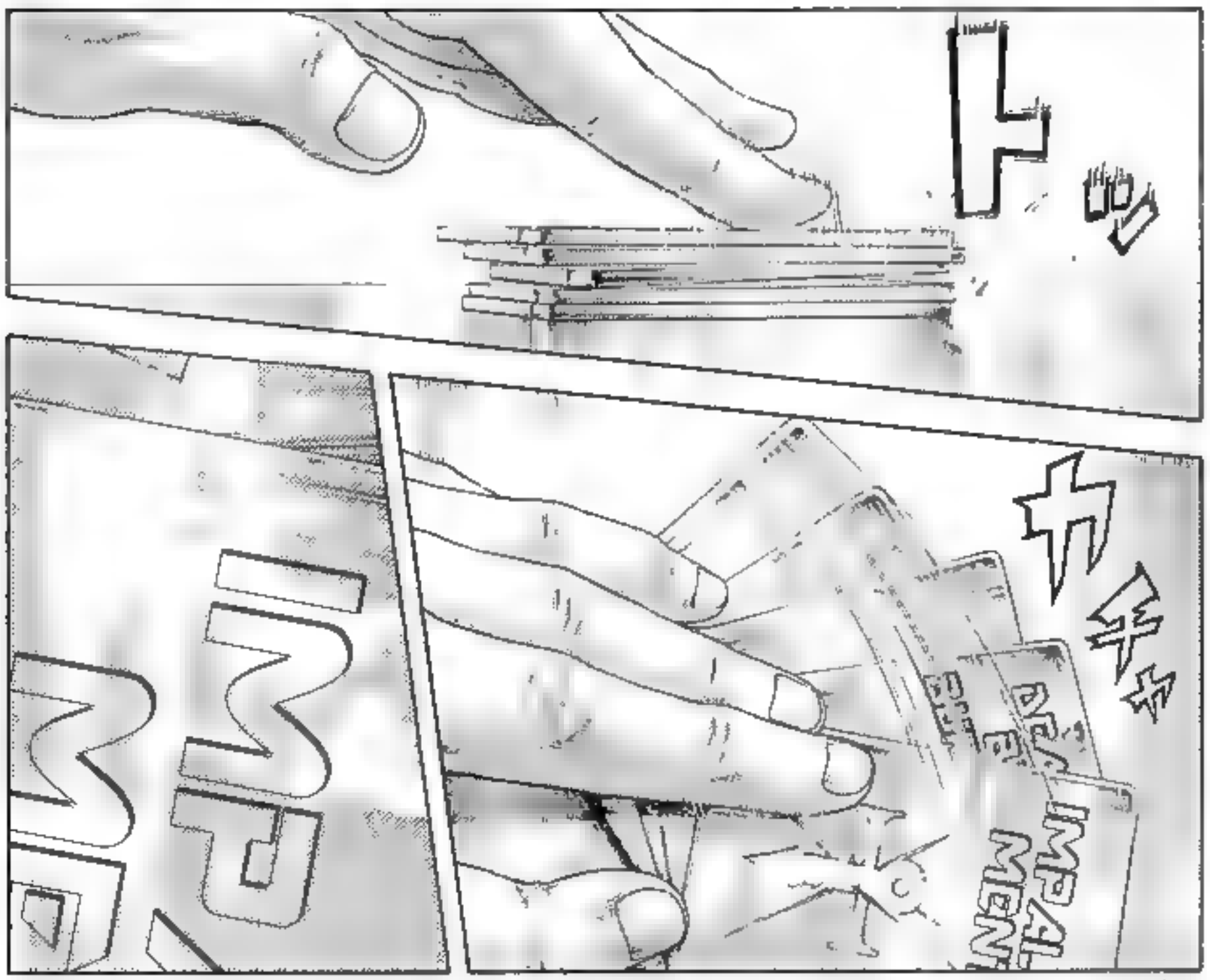
TO THE SOMATO-SENSORY CORTEX OF THE BRAIN.

IT GOES THROUGH THE SPINAL CORD AND THE OPTIC THALAMUS

THE STIMULI OF PAIN BORN FROM THE CELLS THAT HAVE RECEIVED DAMAGE TURNS IMMEDIATELY INTO A SIGNAL.

ONE SHOULD FEEL THE SAME PAIN IN THE FINGER, EVEN IF THERE IS NO ACTUAL WOUND.
?
SO WHAT HAPPENS IF WE WERE ABLE TO REPLICATE THAT SIGNAL AND SEND IT TO THE BRAIN?

DO YOU GET IT?
!


DEJA IMEAT MEN

DEATH IMPALE MENT
BURI

THE WITCH PAIN IS ABLE TO INFLICT.
THESE ARE THE 5 DEADLY AGONIES

SUCCESSFULLY REPLICATED THESE 5 TYPES OF DEADLY AGONY.

THE PROTOTYPE WITCH PAIN

ACCORDING TO THE MANUAL'S INSTRUCTIONS,

THEREFORE, THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN MANY PEOPLE WHO WERE SACRIFICED BY IMPALEMENT TO SAMPLE THEIR PAIN.

ACTUAL SAMPLES WERE NEEDED.

FOR EXAMPLE, IN ORDER TO ACCURATELY REPLICATE THE SIGNAL OF IMPALEMENT,

HOWEVER, THE PROCESS OF CREATING THE "SIGNALS" OF THE PAINS WAS VERY ATROCIOUS.

WITHOUT BLOOD OR PHYSICAL LOSS INJURY.

AND YOU'LL BE EXPERIENCING SUCH A PAIN THAT YOU CAN NEVER GET USED TO

MANY TIMES.

GIVING A PAIN SO ACUTE THAT CAN NORMALLY BE INFLICTED ONLY ONCE,

IT'S A PAIN EVEN MORE VIVID THAN THE REAL DEAL,

ABLE TO BREAK PEOPLE'S MINDS 100%.

SIGH~

HOW TROUBLE-SOME...

HOWEVER, THERE WERE A FEW MENTIONS OF PEOPLE WHO ACTUALLY DIED TO THIS MACHINE.

AGAINST A PAIN SO POIGNANT,

PEOPLE CHOSE DEATH INSTEAD.

WE HAVE SOME PEOPLE WHO CAN'T HAVE HAL DIE HERE.

THERE-FORE, WE'LL LEAVE IT TO BOTH OF YOU TO DECIDE WHETHER WE WILL USE THE WITCH PAIN OR NOT.

I'M REALLY WEAK

TO THIS

KIND OF STUFF...

I AM OKAY WITH IT.

BUT,

THERE IS SOMETHING I WANT YOU TO BET ON.

BUT I CAN'T COWER IN FEAR.

AFTER ALL, IT'S NOT LIKE WE'LL DIE FOR SURE.

BECAME USOGUI'S SACRIFICE, DIDN'T YOU?

YOU SAID THAT I

AT THAT TIME,

TELL ME ALL ABOUT THAT TIME.

I WANT YOU TO

I'M HAL RIGHT NOW.

WHILE

MADARAME BAKU AND HAL.

HAPPENED BETWEEN

I WANT TO KNOW EVERY-THING THAT

HE REALLY LOST HIS MEMORIES ...?

AS I THOUGHT..

IN A WAY, THESE ARE SHACKLES,

THESE ELECTRODES ARE STUCK TO YOUR SKIN WITH ADHESIVE AGENTS.

I DO NOT RECOMMEND YOU TO TAKE THEM OUT BY YOURSELF.

AND ALSO THE PATH

WHERE PAIN WILL BE SENT TO YOUR BRAIN.

CHAPTER 460
THE WEDGE DRIVEN IN

WHAT HAPPENED AT THAT TIME?

YOU DON'T REMEMBER

WILL YOU ACCEPT IT AS THE TRUTH?

...

EVEN IF I TELL YOU THE STORY OF THAT TIME YOU DON'T REMEMBER,

WHAT A TRIFLING REQUEST.

THAT IS SUCH AN ABSURD REQUEST.

EVEN IF SO,

I CAN'T JUST SWALLOW THE WHOLE STORY LIKE THIS BUT...

I WANT TO KNOW...

THAT'S ALL.

...

GAMBLER FUKUROU,

WILL TRUST YOUR PRIDE AS A GAMBLER.

I

IN ORDER TO FIGHT AGAINST HIM,

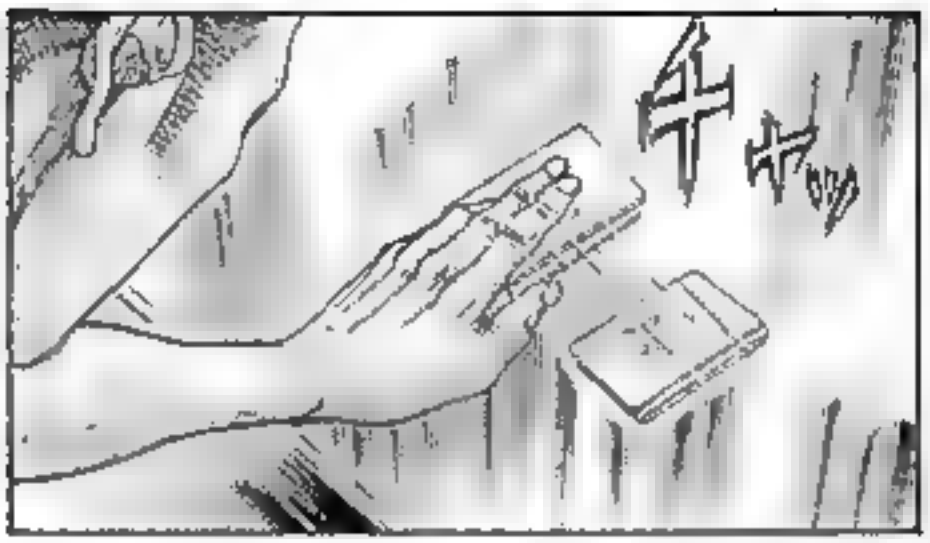
I WILL MAKE HIM WIN RIGHT NOW.

WHO IS MADARAME BAKU FOR HAL?

WHO IS "HAL" FOR MADARAME BAKU?

I WANT TO KNOW IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND

WHY MADARAME BAKU WANTS TO PLAY SURPASSING THE LEADER THAT MUCH,



THEN, BOTH OF YOU,
PLEASE CUT THIS DECK OF THE 5 DEADLY AGONIES ONCE.

UNTIL YOU TASTE IT.
YOU WILL NOT KNOW WHICH AGONY WILL COME UP FOR EACH ROUND,
NOW, I'LL INPUT THE FOLLOWING ORDER OF AGONIES INTO THE "WITCH PAIN".
1ST ROUND
2ND ROUND
3RD ROUND
4TH ROUND
5TH ROUND

THEN,

LET US START HERE TOO.

REFEREE MANABE, THE PLAYERS BELOW WILL SOON BEGIN.

BATTLE IN THE 卍(BAN)

FINAL FIGHT

CHAPTER 450

THE WEDGE DRIVEN IN

AIR POKER

FIRST ROUND

FUKUROU-SAMA,

THE NUMBER IS 15.

15

THE 1ST ROUND'S NUMBER

IS 36.

HAL-SAMA,

I DO NOT KNOW NEITHER THE BETS MADE BELOW, NOR THE REMAINING CARDS HELD BY USOGUI.

AND,

BUT, I DO NOT KNOW FUKUROU'S NUMBER.

36...

36

15

AFTER ALL, KEEPING THE CARDS TO HAVE THEM BE USED BY THE ENEMY WOULD BE SUCH A WASTE.

MEANING IT IS USELESS TO RESERVE CARDS FOR LATER.

4 OF ◇

8 OF ♤

8 OF ◇

8 OF ♡

8 OF ♧

A FOUR OF A KIND OF 8.

IT SEEMS I HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE THAN TO MAKE THE BEST HAND FOR 36.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR HAND.

A
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10

FUKUROU'S HAND

A OF ♤
2 OF ♤
3 OF ♤
4 OF ♤
5 OF ♤

STRAIGHT FLUSH

THE WINNER IS

15!!

USOGUI...

A MISTAKE WAS MADE BY USOGUI...

"NEITHER OF THEM MADE ANY MISTAKES". THEY BOTH MADE THEIR STRONGEST AVAILABLE HAND.

WELL, THAT'S HOW THE 1ST ROUND SHOULD BE.

P...

PLEASE...

FORGIVE ME...

LEADER.

ゴゴゴ

EVEN IF THEY BOTH MADE THE STRONGEST HAND AVAILABLE, OF COURSE, ONE OF THEM WILL LOSE DEPENDING ON THE NUMBER FROM "BELOW".

THE PRECIOUS KEY TO THE GAME "BELOW" IS ALSO BEING DECIDED BY YOUR ACTIONS.

JUST AS YOUR HAND IS BEING INFLUENCED BY THE DECISIONS MADE "BELOW",

THE ELECTRODES OF THE WALLS

ARE PRESSING AGAINST MY WHOLE BODY...

YES...

INCLUDING PAIN.

THE TWO SIDES HAVE TO BE LINKED TOGETHER AND SHARE EVERYTHING.

IT HURTS...

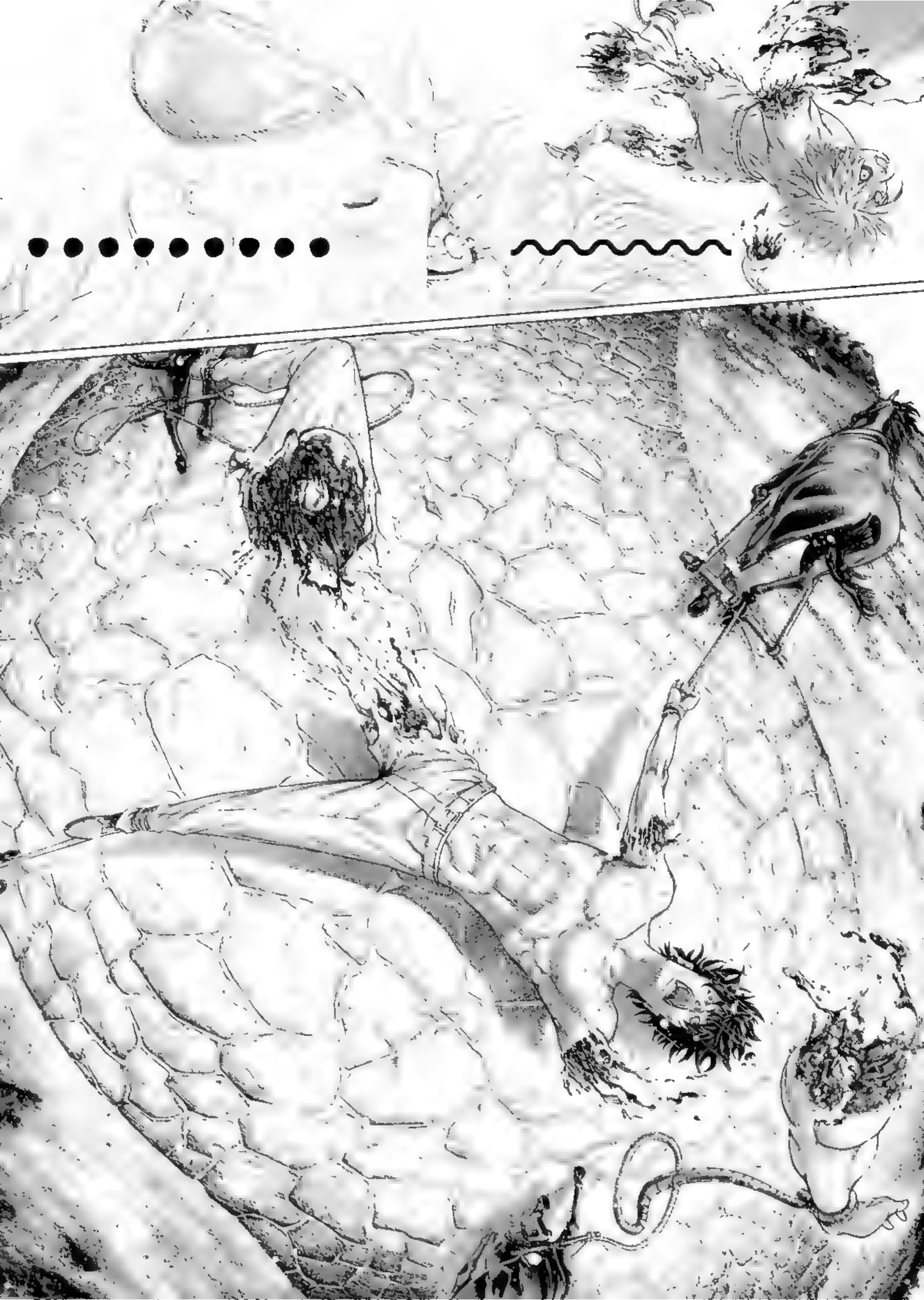
IT HURTS...

IT HURTS...

IT HURTS...

IT HURTS...

AH...



FIRST ROUND,

THE WINNER IS FUKUROU-SAMA.

DISMEMBER-
MENT

DISMEMBER-
MENT, HUH...

I UNDERSTAND NOW...

THIS TORTURE TOOL IS

INSANE...

BUMP

PLEASE FORGIVE ME, LEADER. NO, USOGUI'S ALLY, HAL-SAMA.

THE REASON WE HAVE SELECTED THE WITCH PAIN WAS NOT ONLY TO GIVE A PENALTY.

WE ALSO HAVE TO DRIVE IT IN.

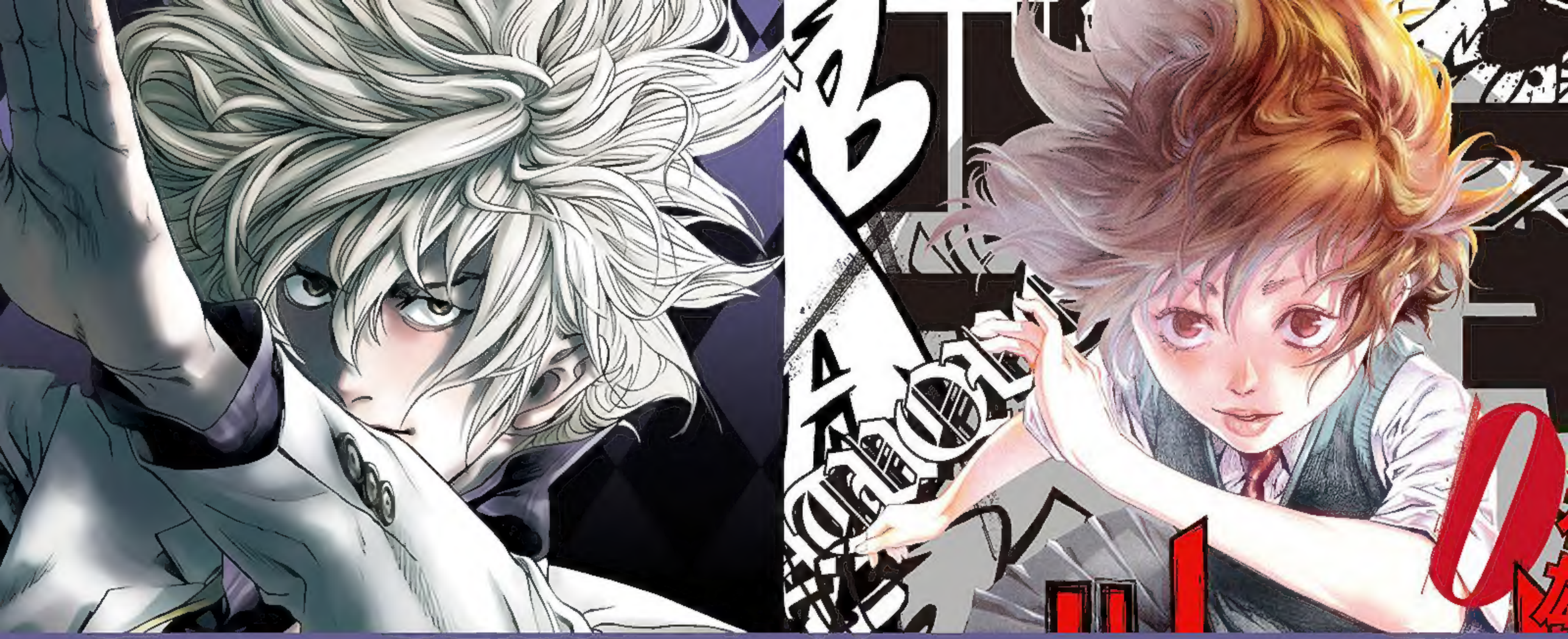
TO DEEPLY DRIVE INTO YOUR BRAINS,

THE WEDGE OF PAIN.

IN A BLINK OF AN EYE, HE IS NOW

SOME-THING DIFFER-ENT...

嘘喰い 男完



Hi guys, this is Team Duwang.
If you like our works, you can donate us on our Patreon or Ko-fi!

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But don't worry!
These are purely for donations!

We created these for people to help support the scans, and there will be no benefits or change in the scanlation schedule or quality.
We'll continue to release chapters FOR FREE AND AT THE SAME PACE.
There will be no benefits to subscribing or any pay-walled content involved.

TP STORY

*TP REFERS TO TOKORO HIDEO'S GYM, "TOKORO PLUS".

I STARTED GOING TO THE GYM OF TOKORO HIDEO, THE "FIGHTING FREETER".

IN ORDER TO HAVE A HEALTHY BODY,

DENNY'S

I... I REALLY WANT TO LEARN MARTIAL ARTS...

AT THAT TIME, I HAD NO IDEA...

BUT,

TOKORO HIDEO WAS...

WHAT KIND OF PERSON

I HAVE SOME-THING TO TELL YOU.

BUT BEFORE THAT,

ALRIGHT, LET'S START PRACTICING...

UHHHH... WELL...

UHH...

I MEAN...

AH...

WELL~

AH...

!!

NOTHING, LET'S BEGIN.

AH...

UHHH...

AH!!

LET'S GO TO "CHOCO-CRO"!

LET'S GO!

IT'S CALLED "CHOCO-CRO".

WHAT IS IT CALLED?

SAKO-SENSEI, THIS WAY! THERE'S A CAFE WHERE KOBAYASHI-KUN (A MEMBER AT THE GYM) IS WORKING AT!

DO YOU WANT A BITE OF THIS "CHOCOLATE CROISSANT", SENSEI?

BY THE WAY, THIS IS REALLY GOOD.

ST.MARC CAFE

THANK YOU~

KOBA-YASHI

AH,

IS THAT SO?

BEING DUMB IS NOT SO BAD

BUT "ST.MARC CAFE", RIGHT...?

OBVIOUSLY...

TOKORO-SAN... THAT'S NOT "CHOCO-CRO",

THE STORE, WHERE KOBAYASHI-KUN'S WORKING AT, IS CALLED "CHOCO-CRO"!!

BZZZ

KOBAYASHI-KUN'S STORE IS CALLED "CHOCO-CRO"

CHOCOLATE CROISSANT

CHOCO-CRO

THE "CHOCOLATE CROISSANT" IN KOBAYASHI-KUN'S STORE IS DELICIOUS.

TOKORO HIDEO

THAT'S RIGHT...

A DITZY MARTIAL ARTIST.

HE IS

TO BE CONTINUED